COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No 357.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1901.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
July, 1902.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, Ltd., 34-40, Bacon Street, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, East Harding Street, Fleet Street, E.C.,
and 32, Abingdon Street, Westminster, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, Edinburgh;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

1902.

[Cd. 788–27.] *Price* 1½*d.*

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
339	British Honduras	1900
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343	Basutoland	1900–1901
344	Gold Coast	1900
345	Grenada	"
346	Northern Nigeria	1900–1901
347	British Solomon Islands	"
348	Lagos	1900
349	British Guiana	1900–1901
350	St. Vincent	1900
351	Jamaica	1900–1901
352	Cocos Islands	1901
353	Southern Nigeria	1900
354	Bermuda	1901
355	Gambia	"
356	Falkland Islands	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
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17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896-1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
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No. 357.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

GOVERNOR MAJOR NATHAN to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Accra,

14th April, 1902.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Report on the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast for the year 1901, prepared by Lieutenant-Colonel A. H. Morris, D.S.O., who was in charge of those Territories as Commissioner and Commandant from the 7th April, when he relieved the late Major J. F. Sheppard, D.S.O., who had been acting as Commissioner and Commandant during the Ashanti rising.

2. The ownership of Kwobia (Pabia), referred to in the first paragraph of the report, will be decided on the results of the survey now being made by the Anglo-German Boundary Commission, which commenced its work early in October of last year, and on the 15th March of this had reached the place in question.

3. The steps taken to suppress slave-raiding in the neighbourhood of Gambaga appear to have met with a satisfactory result.

4. You have been fully informed from time to time with regard to the arrrangements for the expedition, which should by now have completed its operations in the Tiana country and in certain parts of the Fra-Fra sub-district, an expedition rendered necessary to protect the loyal and orderly parts of the country against the periodical raids of their savage and turbulent neighbours.

5. Lieutenant-Colonel Morris's former anticipation that force would have to be employed before the Dagomba chiefs would come definitely under our control was happily not realized.

6. The revenue for the year 1901 stated to be £7,415 4*s.* 3*d.* was, if this statement, which has not yet been verified from the Treasury accounts, is correct, slightly below the revenue of £7,736 7*s.* 9*d.* shown in the Treasury books as received in 1900. The expenditure in 1901 has not yet been completely estimated;

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NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST, 1901.

some difficulty is being experienced in arriving at it with exactness, owing to much of it being incurred on the Gold Coast and in Ashanti for transport, &c.

In preparing the estimates for the current year under each vote, the amounts required specially for the Northern Territories have been abstracted with the result that the total estimated expenditure, including £23,038 11*s.* 7*d.* for the Northern Territories battalion of the West African Frontier Force, amounts to £52,381 11*s.* 7*d.* The revenue is put down at the same amount as for the two previous years, viz., at £8,000.

7. As soon as the Fra-Fra expedition has been brought to a close I propose to instruct Lieutenant-Colonel Morris to arrange for an officer to be stationed at Salaga, where, in addition to collection of revenue, he will have important administrative duties to perform.

8. In the Annual Report on the Medical Department the health of the Northern Territories in 1901 was stated to have been moderately good, and this statement is confirmed by Lieutenant-Colonel Morris, in whose opinion that the climate of the Northern Territories is superior to that of the coast I entirely concur. Of the two cases of deaths of officers who had served in the territories, Major Sheppard's, from blackwater fever, after his return to the United Kingdom, very probably was due to his service in those territories, but I am very doubtful whether this was the case with Captain Dawson, who died at Accra, after having been for some days at Cape Coast during an unhealthy period. The liability of officers to suffer from their journey to the coast will no doubt be decreased when the part of the journey from Kumasi will be accomplished in a day by the railway. The steps taken by Lieutenant-Colonel Morris to secure good sanitary conditions for the Europeans at Gambaga appear to have been entirely in the right direction. I am enquiring of him whether any special precautions are taken to protect men at work in the heat of the day from the effects of exposure to the sun, as I am convinced that a large proportion of the fatal cases in the Colony proper are the result of such exposure.

9. It is unnecessary for me to comment on Lieutenant-Colonel Morris's remarks on the subject of the troops in his command, as I dealt fully with this subject in forwarding the report of Brigadier-General Kemball on his inspection of the battalion.

10. With regard to recruiting, I am asking Lieutenant-Colonel Morris to do all he can to recruit for the battalion in Ashanti, which on the 31st March was still 310 below establishment in the five ranks. The battalion in the Northern Territories is up to its establishment.

11. The detailed census returns for the Northern Territories will shortly be submitted to you with the complete census report for the Colony, Ashanti, and the Northern Territories.

The total figure of 317,964 given by Lieutenant-Colonel Morris would indicate a population of rather over 8·3 per square mile, the area of the Territories being about 38,000 square miles. This is a sparse population. I am doubtful, however, whether, adults only having been counted, an addition of 50 per cent. is sufficient for children.

12. I shall deal shortly in a separate despatch with the question of a subsidiary nickel coinage for the Northern Territories.

13. I am not entirely satisfied that it was advisable to close the store at Wa, which ought to have led to a growing appreciation of European goods among the people on the western side of the Territories; the failure of the store was probably due to want of interest in and supervision of it, and these to the station having been short-handed during the whole of the year. There seems to have been a good reason for closing the store at Kintampo.

14. The conveyance of stores to the Northern Territories as far as Kumasi is now under the control of the Transport Department at Cape Coast. The greater charge for this part of the journey compared with the part between Kumasi and Gambaga is obviously due to the higher rates of wages prevailing on the coast, where the competition for labour is higher.

I intend repeating this year the experiment of sending up a certain proportion of stores for the Northern Territories, *via* the Volta river, under conditions which I anticipate will lead to a better result than the experiment of 1900.

15. In a report with which Brigadier-General Kemball was good enough to furnish me on his journey down the Volta river, he took the same view as Lieutenant-Colonel Morris that the road *via* Salaga and the river will eventually be the route from Gambaga to the coast.

16. I shall arrange that fruit seeds with instructions for growing plants from them are sent up to Gambaga from Aburi.

17. The steps taken by Lieutenant-Colonel Morris to encourage cultivation and the rearing of stock appear to me sound. Government enterprise in these matters is neccessary as an example to the natives.

18. On the whole the report for the year 1901 may be considered satisfactory. I trust that on the conclusion of the present expedition in the Fra-Fra country the Chief Commissioner will find it possible to select from the officers now in the Northern Territories men on whom he can rely to introduce into the outstations the same good order as appears to reign at Gambaga.

I have, &c.,

M. NATHAN,

Governor.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST, 1901.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR THE YEAR 1901.

POLITICAL.

1. Our relations with the two great European Powers, whose territory adjoins this hinterland on three sides, have been of the most cordial nature throughout the past year. On my arrival here in April I found that a question had arisen with reference to the possession of Kwobia (Pabia), which till its occupation by German troops in February had always been considered as British, it being shown on all maps in our possession as being several miles to the west of the meridian, passing through the point of intersection of the Daka with the 9th parallel. A detatchment of British troops was thereupon sent to Kwobia and the matter referred to our respective Governments, who decided that the place should be considered as neutral till the frontier had been delimited by the Anglo-German Boundary Commission. Troops on both sides were therefore simultaneously withdrawn at the beginning of July. I am glad to be able to report that during the joint occupation of Kwobia the greatest good feeling existed between the troops on both sides.

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

2. During the early months of the year a considerable amount of looting took place within a radius of 30 miles of Gambaga, frequent raids being made for the acquisition of women, children, and cattle. Since my arrival in April two important gangs of robbers have, however, been broken up, and 80 cases of slave-dealing, looting, and raiding of women and children dealt with. The prompt measures taken to check all slave-dealing and raiding, and the severe punishments inflicted for these offences, have had a most salutary effect, and they have now become extremely rare, except in remote parts of the Administration, where, owing to the paucity of officers, it has not been possible to establish British posts.

The kidnapping of children, however, is most difficult to detect and to put a stop to, as the children are so often found straying outside the outskirts of their village; they are then picked up by some prowling thief, frequently a woman, and carried away a dozen miles before they are missed. The child is then sold, very often to some woman, who, being without children, wishes to adopt one, and in a few months becomes so attached to its new home that, as has happened in several cases brought before me, when found it frequently refuses to return to its real parents.

With the exception of the Tiansi district and certain parts of the Fra-Fra country, lying close to the 11th parallel of north latitude between 1° and 0° west longitude, the whole of the Protectorate is in a most peaceful state. It is very satisfactory

to be able to report the thorough and complete submission of the Dagombas. A large "palaver" was held at Gambaga last July for the purpose of presenting the Dagomba kings with lockets, similar to those bestowed on the other chiefs in the Northern Territories in 1899. I took this opportunity of informing the Dagombas that now they were under our rule and protection all slave-dealing and raiding must cease, and they must obey all orders that might be given them. They expressed their loyalty to His Majesty and their readiness to obey all orders. These promises they have faithfully kept, and given me the greatest assistance in the making of roads and providing of carriers. The two Martini-Metford carbines which were taken by them from us in January, 1898, have also been returned.

REVENUE.

3. The revenue during the past year amounts to £7,415 4*s*. 3*d*., as against £3,980 3*s*. 2*d*. in 1899. No annual report was sent in by the late Major Sheppard for 1900, nor were complete returns kept up, so that I am unable to make comparisons with that year. I attach a return, which shows the amount of revenue collected each quarter in the different districts. I also attach a further return showing the number of animals and loads on which taxes have been levied.

Comparing this return with 1899, it is found that the amount realised in 1901 from caravan taxes exceeds that of the previous year by nearly £1,100. The chief increase is in the number of sheep passing through the territories, 28,683 paying taxes against 18,773 in 1899. There is also an increase of nearly 3,000 loads as regards kola nuts. I am of opinion that these figures may be considered as satisfactory, as they tend to show that there is a considerable general increase of trade.

I desire to point out that the amount to be realised from the collection of caravan taxes altogether depends on the number of officers at one's disposal.

Unless there is an officer at every main trade centre, through which the large caravans pass, the tax will undoubtedly be evaded, and the revenue suffer, as was the case last year, when owing to the paucity of officers I was unable to establish officers' posts at Tumu, Bole, Walewale and Salaga.

There is no doubt that the establishing of a post at Salaga, which town is the destination of the majority of the caravans, owing to its being one of the chief centres of the kola nut trade, will lead to a considerable increase of the revenue to be derived from caravan taxes. It is very satisfactory to be able to report that no complaints have been received from the caravans that they have been called upon to pay tolls to any of the chiefs of the various districts through which they pass. It is thoroughly understood by all traders that the payment of the small Government tax frees them from any further toll, and that they will

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST, 1901.

receive quick and ready redress for any wrong they may suffer at the hands of any chief or people. The Maintenance tax has now been abolished with the approval of the Secretary of State, and will not be collected in future. It was considered that its imposition gave the native chiefs great opportunities for extortion. Although, however, there will be a loss to the revenue during 1902 of nearly £1,200 Maintenance tax, it is considered that this will be more than counterbalanced by the sums paid by mining companies for prospecting licences and rights of option.

The leases when taken up will result in a large increase of revenue. In the course of a very few years, as soon as the river service has been established, thus leading to a large reduction in the cost of transport, and the leases of mines taken up, I am extremely hopeful that the Protectorate will be almost self-supporting, and will be able to pay the whole expenses of its administration except the cost of the troops.

GENERAL HEALTH.

4. As all medical returns are now sent direct to the Principal Medical Officer at Accra, I am unable to furnish statistics of the health of either Europeans or Hausas. I am, however, of opinion that the general health of Europeans stationed in the Protectorate during the past year might be considered as fairly satisfactory; no officers have died within the Northern Territories during this period, though the deaths of both Major Sheppard and Captain Dawson were due to their service in these territories, the former dying last June at home a few days after landing, the latter at Accra in April.

No officers have been invalided before the expiration of their tour of service, though several left the territories in a very weak and feeble state. Everything possible is being done to improve the health of the officers serving here. Excellent rations consisting of flour, sugar, rice, tea, &c., have been sent out from England, and can be obtained on payment: these, combined with a regular supply of fresh milk and also European vegetables for eight months of the year, have conduced greatly to the maintenance of health.

There is no doubt that the climate of the Northern Territories is superior to that of the coast; the fever is of a milder type, and the patient appears to recover from its effects more rapidly.

I venture to state, however, that the better health enjoyed by officers up here is due more to the healthier life led than the superiority of the climate; the proper carrying out of one's duties necessitates the taking of three or four hours' exercise a day.

At the end of their twelve months tour officers, however, appear almost as much "run down" as on the coast, and I would most strongly urge the advisability of relieving all European officials up to date as much as possible, as it must be remembered

that an arduous journey of 500 miles has to be undertaken at the end of one's tour before the coast line is reached; this journey is a great strain on Europeans in a weak state of health.

The only epidemic in the Northern Territories during 1901 was an outbreak of small-pox at Kintampo in April, of which there were 17 cases, three of whom died. The energetic measures taken by Dr. Graham checked the outbreak, and there were no further cases after May.

Although every facility is afforded the natives of free medical treatment not many avail themselves of this privilege. In Kintampo—which being the nearest to the coast may be considered as one of the most civilised towns, and is also one of the largest—Dr. Graham informs me that he treated 514 cases in nine months, including men from the surrounding villages. These cases may roughly be divided into two classes :—

1st. The well-informed native from the coast, who has experienced and has some confidence in European treatment.

2nd. The pauper, who is too poor to pay the high fees demanded by the native practitioner, and who attends the European medical officer as a "pis aller," but with great distrust.

It is extremely difficult to carry out efficient treatment for either class, for by the first class orders are systematically disobeyed, and native treatment pursued simultaneously. By the second the medicine given to be taken internally is frequently applied externally or carried as a charm. Both classes easily become discouraged unless an immediate effect be produced, and cease to attend before time enough has been spent to effect a cure.

Now that so much attention is being paid to Dr. Ross's anti-mosquito campaign in West Africa, it may be perhaps of interest to mention our efforts in this direction in Gambaga.

Following out the instructions for the prevention of malarial fever, published by the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, I caused all holes that might contain puddles, and so become breeding grounds for the anopheles mosquito, to be filled up.

Some hollows in rocks were discovered containing about 18 inches of water filled with thousands of larvæ.

The Hausas' and Carriers' lines were inspected twice a week in order to ensure no stagnant water being allowed to remain in old pots or tins. The general result has been an immense reduction in the number of mosquitoes. With regard to my own quarters, in addition to taking these sanitary measures, I had every mosquito killed so far as possible as soon as it appeared. The result of this was that my own house was nearly free from mosquitoes, and I have only had half a day's fever during my time in Gambaga (nearly ten months); whether this immunity has been due to the absence of the mosquito I do not venture to say.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST, 1901.

So far as the means at one's disposal will allow, all houses for Europeans have been built with the utmost regard to sanitary regulations. They are not crowded together, and are at some distance from the native quarters. Each of them is surrounded with a large open compound from which the rank vegetation has been cleared away, as well as all trees in the immediate vicinity of the house.

TROOPS.

5. The troops here are composed of a battery and the 2nd Battalion of the Gold Coast Regiment of the West African Frontier Force, and have been raised from the tribes of this hinterland. They make excellent soldiers, as they are of fine physique, most amenable to discipline, and extremely anxious to learn their work. Their behaviour has been extremely good, and there have been very few cases of serious crime.

There were 28 desertions during the past year, 24 of them being recruits with only a few weeks' service. I made especial enquiries into the cause of these desertions, and found that these young soldiers, after having joined for a few days, took advantage of their improved social position to obtain as much credit as possible both from their comrades and from the traders in the town. As soon, however, as their creditors began to press for payment, and to threaten to take legal proceedings, the recruits freed themselves from their pecuniary obligations by flight.

The men turn out very well on parade, and take a pride in their appearance and in wearing His Majesty's uniform. Several of the old non-commissioned officers, whose only claim to promotion lay in their age, have left the force, and a considerable number of smart young non-commissioned officers promoted; every man knows that promotion will be by selection, and that it rests entirely with himself as to the rank he attains. The drill of the men is very good and steady; every opportunity is taken of teaching the non-commissioned officers how to command their own sections, and every encouragement given to these section commanders to use their intelligence and act on their own initiative. The musketry of the battalion has much improved, and the men take great interest in their shooting. I am much indebted to the officers commanding companies for their zeal and energy in training and looking after their men, and especially wish to mention in this respect Captain A. H. Walker-Leigh and Captain J. O'Kinealy, Royal Garrison Artillery, who has done much to improve his small battery during the short time he has been in command.

RECRUITING.

6. Recruiting has been carried on with much success during the past year, 282 recruits having been obtained. Sixty-nine recruits were raised in 1899, and 153 in 1900, so that the recruiting in the Northern Territories during 1901 shows a great

improvement over past years, especially as the standard has been considerably raised, no men being accepted under 5 feet 6 inches in height and 34 inches chest measurement.

I am of opinion that this hinterland is a most valuable field for recruiting; the men are of excellent material, most amenable to discipline, fairly intelligent, and extremely desirous of learning their work. I have shown in the table below the various tribes from which the recruits during the past year have been enlisted.

Dagartis.	Dagombas.	Fra-Fras.	Fulanis.	Grumahs.	Grunshis.	Hausas.	Kanjargas.	Kipalsis.	Kotokolis.	Moshis.	Wongaras.	Yorubas.	Zebarimas	Total.
25	22	5	16	13	57	15	38	4	3	40	15	8	21	282

In my annual report for 1899 I strongly recommended that the "bringing money" reward should be paid directly a recruit was approved of by me, on the grounds that nothing more discourages the bringer of a recruit than not receiving his reward at once. This recommendation was sanctioned last April with very beneficial results.

CENSUS.

7. A census was taken of this hinterland last year with fairly satisfactory results, especially when one considers the very short time these territories have been under our rule; the total counted adult population amounted to 107,964, there being 2,000 more males than females.

In order to get a more approximately accurate account 104,000 was added to the above numbers as a considerable portion of the country was not counted. Only the adult population has been included in these figures; it was suggested, therefore, that 50 per cent. should be added for children, viz., 106,000, so that the estimated total population of the Northern Territories amounts to 317,964.

It is with great satisfaction I am able to report that in the districts of Mamprusi, Dagomba, Gonja, Kintampo, Bole, Wa, and Grunshi, the chiefs gave every assistance, and readily accepted my assurance that the counting had nothing to do with the bringing in of a tax or making additional calls upon them for free labour.

In Dagarti the enumerators were received in many places with considerable suspicion; whenever this took place the counting was not proceeded with. The Fra-Fra district I did not attempt, as it would not have been safe to send anyone to count them without an escort, which would have defeated its own object.

SILVER CURRENCY.

8. I am of opinion that the introduction of the English silver coinage into this Protectorate has had an excellent effect in the encouragement and increase of trade.

The enormous disadvantages of the cowrie coinage are obvious when one considers that one pound's worth of cowries are a heavy carrier load.

I find, however, that the threepenny (3*d.*) piece, the lowest silver coin now in circulation, is of too high a value (being equal to 250 cowries) to answer all requirements, as the native when making his usual daily purchases of food, &c., buys a variety of small things, ranging in value from ten (10) to thirty (30) cowries each. I wish, therefore, most strongly to recommend the very early introduction of a subsidiary coinage made of nickel, and am of opinion that the coins most required are a penny and a half-penny piece, equivalent roughly to eighty (80) and forty (40) cowries respectively. I do not think that it would be at all necessary to go below these coins in value, as the cowrie coinage must remain the medium for all very small purchases in the way of foodstuffs, &c.

I do not recommend the introduction of the copper coinage into the Northern Territories, as I am of opinion that the coppers would be mostly turned into rings and other ornaments.

TRADE GOODS.

9. I attach returns showing the amount of trade goods sold each quarter in the Government stores at Gambaga, Wa, and Kintampo.

The stores at Kintampo and Wa were not a success, and have therefore been closed, the goods being either sold off by auction or transferred to Gambaga. It was found that the store at Kintampo was not required, as owing to its proximity to the coast a considerable number of traders had already established themselves there.

The receipts in the Gambaga store show also a considerable falling off, chiefly in the March quarter, when only £21 were taken. This was due to two reasons: First, because little interest was taken in the sales at that time, and no attempt made to keep the Government salesman up to his work; second, the goods asked for in March, 1900, had not arrived, and consequently there was a lack of the more popular articles. As soon as the fresh goods arrived the sales at once increased, and there was as great a demand as ever for cotton prints, grey and blue bafts, white Croydon linen, cheap silk handkerchiefs, pomade, looking glasses, basins, pipes, &c.

There is no doubt that this store has answered the purpose for which it was originally started, viz., as the pioneer of ordinary

commerce, and that its establishment has created a demand for goods which did not before exist.

Several coast traders have arrived here and are doing a prosperous trade; I am of opinion that in another two years the necessity of continuing the Government trade goods store will no longer exist.

As soon as a cheaper system of transport can be elaborated, I consider that there will be a great opening for trade in this Protectorate.

TRANSPORT.

10. The question of the cost of transport has had my most serious attention, and has been cut down as much as possible. I wish to point out that the chief cost of transporting loads to the Northern Territories lies altogether outside my administration, and is not under my control. For the first 250 miles from the coast to Kintampo the route lies outside the Northern Territories, and the charge for a load over this section is £1 17*s*. The rest of the route from Kintampo to Gambaga, almost identical in length, costs 13*s*. for the transport of a load, which cannot be considered excessive.

An experiment was tried at the end of 1900 of sending rations up to Kintampo in canoes by the Volta from Ada. It was not however a success, as the greater part of the stores took nearly six months to reach Longoro, the port for Kintampo, and one day's journey from that station, and then arrived in a very damaged condition, at least one-fifth of the Maconochie meat tins being so bad that they had to be destroyed.

The finding however of gold in the Northern Territories, and the consequent taking up of concessions by influential mining companies, will soon solve all difficulties as regards transport, as in order to successfully work the mines it is absolutely necessary that the Volta should be made navigable for stern wheel steamers to enable machinery, &c., to be brought up. Once the river service has been established the cost of transport will be reduced over 100 per cent., as it will then be possible to bring all stores intended for Kintampo up by river to Longoro, a few miles only from that place. Those for Gambaga would be landed at Yegi and brought thence by road *via* Salaga to Gambaga, which by the new road I am at present making is 10 days' journey from Yegi.

I am of opinion that it would be altogether premature to at present consider the question of extending the river service up the White Volta to Daboya, as it must be remembered that the cost of making this part of the river navigable would have to be borne by the Government and not by the mining companies, the area of the supposed gold fields being in the valley of the Black Volta and not the White. The journey from Daboya to Gambaga is also only three days shorter than from Yegi, so that the few days gained would not compensate for the extra cost involved.

ROADS.

11. The roads already made have been kept cleared and in good repair. I am at present engaged in constructing a good permanent road from Gambaga to Salaga, *via* Karaga, Ga, Garewea, Kapendi, and Donkokade. Although this route is not the main trade route to Salaga from the countries to the north-east of this Protectorate, as it does not pass through Kobia, which is the centre on which the chief trade routes converge, I was however of opinion that it would have been most inadvisable to defer the construction of a good road from Gambaga to Salaga till the exact position of Kobia had been settled by the Anglo-German Boundary Commission. Should it fall to Germany I am of opinion that the fact of a good road being made in a direct line from Gambaga to Salaga will divert a considerable amount of trade from Kobia. Already a considerable number of caravans from Gambaga are using the new road instead of going, as previously, through Patenga and Kobia.

The new road is 16 feet wide with shallow ditches on either side, and when completed will, as soon as the river service has been established to Yegi, be by far the shortest route to Gambaga from the coast. There has been no difficulty in procuring local labour, but the paucity of officers has greatly interfered with its construction, as the natives will not remain at the work without the supervision of an European officer, who must make all measurements and lay out the proper direction.

I hope, however, that this road will be nearly completed by the end of June: this does not include the bridging of several streams and draining a certain number of swamps, which will require the services of a Foreman of works next dry weather.

BUILDINGS.

12. The arrival of a Foreman of works in Kintampo last July has enabled several buildings of a permanent nature to be constructed.

A commodious store has been built at Kintampo with brick walls and shingle roof; a magazine and treasury are also being constructed. At Gambaga a new house with suitable offices has been built for the Chief Commissioner; a new magazine, treasury, and quartermaster's stores are also about to be built. Shingles are not obtainable round Gambaga, the Chief Commissioner's house has therefore been roofed with grass; the magazine, treasury, and quartermaster's stores will have sheet iron roofing, which is about to be sent up from the coast. The construction of these permanent buildings, especially if the floors can be made of cement, will result in a considerable saving to Government, as hitherto there has been a great waste of stores owing to the ravages of white ants.

HORTICULTURAL.

13. The seeds sown in the Government gardens this year have been a success, especially in Gambaga, where radishes, tomatoes, French beans, egg-plants, cabbages, lettuces, and kohl rabi were grown with very satisfactory results; cucumbers and turnips were only fair. The tomatoes were most productive: a careful succession of sowings provided a continuous supply throughout the year; during the rains the fruit was as fine as if grown in England under the most favourable circumstances. The arrival of the Harmattan in November completely destroyed all the other vegetables. To grow vegetables with any success in this country it is essential that the garden should be under careful European supervision, so as to ensure the seeds being at first grown under grass shelters and liberally watered twice a day.

I cannot speak too highly of the enormous benefit to health derived from this supply of English vegetables, especially in a country where the native supply is both scanty and indifferent.

There are now a considerable number of papaw trees in Gambaga, the majority of which are bearing fruit; these trees were first planted in 1899. I have also at present a large number of young trees, which will be planted about the cantonments at the beginning of the rainy season.

The Northern Territories are singularly destitute of fruit, and I would therefore suggest that the experiment be tried of producing other native fruits that are found to do well on the coast, such as pineapples, bananas, mangoes, oranges, guavas, &c. The results, if successful, would greatly contribute to the health and comfort of all Europeans residing in this Protectorate.

HARVEST AND FOOD SUPPLY.

14. The harvest throughout the whole Protectorate has been plentiful. There has been no plague of locusts as was the case in 1900, when much damage was done. The native, however, is of an improvident nature, and it is with the utmost difficulty that he can be induced to sow sufficient corn to last him for the whole year. The result of this is that large numbers of them live in a state of semi-starvation for four months, from April to July, when the harvest of the new crops begins. As I did not arrive in Gambaga till the end of April I was only able to put a few acres under cultivation as a Government farm; the results, however, were so far satisfactory, as nearly £10 worth of maize, millet, and ground nuts were reaped at a cost of £3 for seed.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST, 1901.

Free labour was utilised in accordance with the old-established custom by which free labour is always supplied to kings for the cultivation of their farms.

The Government herd is also being worked with success, and a number of stock reared during the year; £262 worth of cattle were sold during 1901 to the butchers. In order to encourage the rearing of stock in the neighbouring districts, and to induce the cattle dealers in Gambaga to follow my example, I sent natives out to purchase cattle in the surrounding country, paying for them at the current rates. These cattle were readily sold by auction to the butchers at nearly 100 per cent. profit. Enterprise, however, except amongst the Mahomedan traders, is not a native characteristic, and the dealers preferred waiting till animals were brought into Gambaga to going further afield, though they were aware that a large profit would be the result of their trouble. Still it is satisfactory to note that every year sees an increase in the number of acres put under cultivation, and more food brought into the markets.

ADMINISTRATION.

15. This Protectorate is now administered under the Northern Territories Administration Ordinance, by which the Chief Commissioner is given extensive powers. Very stringent laws exist prohibiting the importation into the Protectorate of any trade spirits, and I most sincerely hope that such laws will always remain in force, no matter what the loss may be to the revenue, as I am confident that the import of trade spirits will lead to a vast increase of crime, especially "Manslaughter" and "Murder," crimes which at present are of the rarest occurrence.

My experience of these territories dates from 1899, and I have no hesitation in saying that they have made huge strides along the road to civilization since that date; the inhabitants fully appreciate the justice as well as the power of our rule, and will travel many days' journey not only to get redress for any wrongs they may have suffered, but to ask for one's decision in any matter of importance.

This administration is a very large one, nearly 50,000 square miles, and I cannot too strongly urge the vast importance of only the best officers being selected to hold the appointments of District Commissioner. An officer without tact or the ability to take a keen interest in the welfare of his district is not only useless in these territories but a source of danger, as it takes months to wipe out from the minds of the natives the effects of grievous blunders or injustice. Any official who deals with these people patiently, honestly, and fairly, paying due consideration

to their native customs and their national characteristics, will have no difficulty in winning their confidence, and will find that they are capable of fully appreciating his efforts for their welfare.

A. MORRIS, Lieut.-Colonel,
Chief Commissioner,
Northern Territories.

Gambaga,
28th February, 1902.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST, 1901.

GENERAL

RETURN showing amount of REVENUE realised in the 31st December,

Quarter ending	Districts.	Caravan Taxes.	Maintenance Tax.	Slaughtering Fees.	Court Fees and Fines.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1901. 31st March ...	White Volta District.	374 11 0	195 0 0	32 16 0	32 11 0
30th June ...	„	41 0 0	102 1 0	29 5 0	36 0 0
30th September	„	41 3 9	25 19 0	34 2 0	37 15 6
31st December	„	186 4 6	5 0 0	31 1 6	114 2 6
		642 19 3	328 0 0	127 4 6	220 9 0
1901. 31st March ...	Black Volta District.	380 17 3	228 8 0	11 14 0	0 10 0
30th June ...	„	108 19 9	341 5 0	11 12 0	1 17 0
30th September	„	75 6 0	79 18 0	11 18 6	1 7 0
31st	„	263 17 0	—	9 14 0	6 0 0
		829 0 0	649 11 0	44 18 6	9 14 0
		Paid in England by the Wa Syndicate, Limited,			
1901. 31st March ...	Kintampo District.	1,265 17 6	40 0 0	23 8 6	39 1 0
30th June ...	„	418 16 3	—	22 8 0	17 11 0
30th September	„	169 1 9	—	15 19 3	18 2 6
31st December	„	390 8 3	—	11 0 9	33 2 3
		2,243 13 9	40 0 0	72 16 6	107 16 9
	Grand Total	3,715 13 0	1,017 11 0	244 19 6	337 19 9

Gambaga,
28th February, 1902.

REVENUE

NORTHERN TERRITORIES during the YEAR ending 1901.

Sale of Trade Goods.	Sale of Livestock.	Sale of Rations.	Sale of Stamps, Cards, Envelopes, and Duty on Parcels.	Ferry Dues.	Officers employed Carriers as Servants.	Total Revenue received.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
21 0 0	5 14 6	20 18 5½	—	—	4 0 0	686 10 11½
202 16 0	74 12 6	32 19 2	—	5 2 3	—	523 15 11
297 11 9	39 10 0	71 10 7	0 19 9	9 0 0	—	607 12 4
93 13 6	67 12 6	34 18 8	2 9 10	14 1 0	—	549 4 0
615 1 3	237 9 6	160 6 10½	3 9 7	28 3 3	4 0 0	2,367 3 2½
0 19 6	5 8 0	12 1 1	—	—	—	639 17 10
0 8 6	12 12 0	7 16 7	—	—	—	484 10 10
—	7 2 6	2 10 0	—	—	—	178 2 0
12 14 9	—	5 1 9	0 0 6	7 1 0	—	304 9 0
14 2 9	25 2 6	27 9 5	0 0 6	7 1 0	—	1,606 18 8
for Rights of Option over 400 square miles of the Northern Teritories...						800 0 0
0 8 0	—	7 13 7	17 0 3	—	—	1,393 8 10
3 16 3	—	26 14 3	9 1 9	—	—	497 17
23 12 6	—	27 11 2	8 15 4	—	2 5 4	265 7 10
4 17 6	—	37 2 5	7 17 1	—	—	484 8 3
32 14 3	—	99 1 5	42 14 5	—	2 5 4	2,641 2 5
661 18 3	262 12 0	286 17 8½	46 4 6	35 4 3	6 5 4	7,415 4 3½

A. MORRIS, Lieut.-Colonel,
Chief Commissioner,
Northern Territories, Gold Coast.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST, 1901.

RETURN of ANIMALS and LOADS on which TAXES have for the

Quarter ending	Districts.	Horses.	Cattle.	Calves.	Donkeys.	Sheep.	Lambs.
1901.							
31st March ...	White Volta District.	61	737	—	1,122	4,734	—
30th June	„	5	65	—	82	380	—
30th September ...	„	1	126	—	7	185	1
31st December ...	„	16	464	—	440	2,193	—
		83	1,392	—	1,651	7,492	1
1901.							
31st March ...	Black Volta District.	28	561	11	782	5,122	55
30th June	„	6	235	11	98	1,286	21
30th September ...	„	2	221	—	6	849	2
31st December ...	„	7	702	—	558	3,432	4
		43	1,719	22	1,444	10,689	82
1901.							
31st March ...	Kintampo District	37	814	—	626	7,543	—
30th June	„	4	242	—	57	1,296	—
30th September ...	„	—	21	—	1	293	—
31st December ...	„	3	307	—	87	1,370	—
		44	1,384	—	771	10,502	—
	Grand Total...	170	4,495	22	3,866	28,683	83

Gambaga,
28th February, 1902.

been COLLECTED in the NORTHERN TERRITORIES YEAR 1901.

Loads.								Amount.
Kola Nuts.	Salt.	Cloth.	Beads.	Cowries.	Donkeys carrying Miscellaneous Loads.	Hoes.	Miscellaneous.	£ s. d.
77	44	51	—	—	—	—	—	374 11 0
62	34	22	—	—	—	5	—	41 0 0
48	43	74	—	—	—	2	—	41 [illegible] 9
25	44	—	—	—	—	—	—	186 4 6
212	165	147	—	—	—	7	—	642 19 3
356	331	51	4	2	—	8	—	380 17 3
—	102	4	4	—	—	—	—	108 19 9
33	163	2	—	—	—	—	—	75 6 0
24	91	32	—	—	—	—	—	263 17 0
413	687	89	8	2	—	8	—	829 0 0
5,414	108	269	7	2	1,407	—	242	1,265 17 6
1,868	108	417	1	—	468	—	94	418 6 3
993	75	254	11	30	23	—	139½	169 1 9
2,009	33	214	21	2½	181	—	345	390 8 3
10,284	324	1,154	40	34½	2,079	—	820½	2,243 13 9
10,909	1,176	1,390	48	36½	2,079	15	820½	3,715 13 0

A. MORRIS, Lieut.-Colonel,
Chief Commissioner,
Northern Territories, Gold Coast.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST, 1901.

RETURN showing SALE of GOVERNMENT TRADE GOODS in the NORTHERN TERRITORIES during the YEAR 1901.

Quarter ending	Districts.	Amount.	Remarks.
1901.		£ s. d.	
31st March	White Volta District	21 0 0	
30th June	" "	202 16 0	
30th September ...	" "	297 11 9	
31st December ...	" "	93 13 6	
		615 1 3	
1901.			
31st March	Black Volta District	0 19 6	
30th June	" "	0 8 6	
30th September ...	" "	—	
31st December ...	" "	12 14 9	
		14 2 9	
1901.			
31st March	Kintampo District	0 8 0	
30th June	" "	3 16 3	
30th September ...	" "	23 12 6	
31st December ...	" "	4 17 6	
		32 14 3	
	Grand Total ...	661 18 3	

A. MORRIS, Lieut.-Colonel,
Chief Commissioner,
Northern Territories.

Gambaga,
28th February, 1902.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
By DARLING & SON, Ltd., 34-40, Bacon Street, E.

1902.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 429.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1903.

(For Report for 1901, *see* No. 357.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty

September, 1904.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, Ltd., 34-40, Bacon Street, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE & SPOTTISWOODE, East Harding Street, Fleet Street, E.C.,
and 32, Abingdon Street, Westminster, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, Edinburgh;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

1904.

[Cd. 2238-6.] *Price* 1½*d.*

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
POLITICAL	6
STATE OF COUNTRY	6
CRIME...	6
REVENUE	7
TRADE GOODS	8
SILVER CURRENCY	8
GENERAL HEALTH	9
TROOPS	10
RECRUITING	11
MAPS AND ITINERARIES	12
COTTON GROWING	12
HARVEST AND FOOD SUPPLY	13
HORTICULTURAL	14
TRANSPORT	15
TRANSPORT OF MAILS	15
ROADS...	16
BUILDINGS	16
LEGISLATION	16

No. 429.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

(For Report for 1901 *see* No. 357.)

GOVERNOR RODGER to MR. LYTTELTON.

Christiansborg Castle,

West Coast of Africa,

April 2, 1904.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for your information, the annual report on the administration of the Northern Territories for the year 1903.

This report, which has evidently been prepared with much care, shows that the general condition of the Protectorate is satisfactory; and the advances made in various directions reflect credit on Colonel Morris and the officers serving under him.

From what Colonel Morris writes, in the paragraph dealing with criminal offences, it would appear advisable to maintain the prohibition of importing trade spirits into the Protectorate.

The results obtained from gold mining have not hitherto been very encouraging, and, having regard to transport difficulties, these Northern Territories are placed at a disadvantage,

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as compared with the Colony or Ashanti; but prospecting work still continues, and the representatives of a new syndicate had an interview with me in London, during the month of February last, and informed me that they had just sent out another party of prospectors.

I am considering the question of a subsidiary coinage in connection with the Colony, as well as with Ashanti and the Northern Territories.

The health returns are already fairly satisfactory, and still better results will doubtless be shown in future years with improved sanitation and more comfortable surroundings.

It is satisfactory to note the popularity of service in the local battalion of the Gold Coast Regiment, and the facility with which recruits can be obtained.

I agree with Colonel Morris that the best districts for growing cotton are in the immediate neighbourhood of the Volta River, and will cause him to be informed of the arrangements made for establishing an experimental farm at Anum (reported in my despatch of 14th March last), from which he can obtain all necessary seeds, tools, &c.

The system adopted in the German colonies, referred to in this report, of training soldiers and police in improved methods of agriculture, is one well worthy of imitation; and I will bring it to the notice of the Inspector-General of the West African Frontier Force, of the Officer Commanding the 1st Battalion, and of the Commissioner of Police.

The question of obtaining the services of a veterinary expert, to enquire into and report on the various diseases from which horses and cattle suffer in West Africa, deserves full consideration, and I will deal with it under separate cover.

The fact that European vegetables can be, and are, sucessfully cultivated in the Protectorate doubtless contributes both to the comfort and health of the officers stationed there; and the Head Curator at Aburi has already been instructed to supply fruit- and shade-trees to all outstations throughout the Colony, Ashanti, and the Northern Territories.

The cost of transporting stores from the coast has been reduced, but is still extremely high, and forms a heavy item in the expenditure required for the administration of this Protectorate.

The paragraph relating to roads shows a general recognition of the advantages of improved means of transport by the local chiefs.

I would ask that this report may be printed in England, in the usual course, and the proof sent for revision to Colonel Morris, who is about to proceed on leave.

I have, &c.,

J. P. RODGER,

Governor.

Chief Commissioner's Office,

Gambaga,

February 29, 1904.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the information of His Excellency the Governor, a report on the administration of the Northern Territories for the year 1903.

I have, &c.,

A. MORRIS, Lieutenant-Colonel,

Chief Commissioner, Northern Territories.

The Honourable

The Colonial Secretary,

Accra.

REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR THE YEAR 1903.

Political.

Our relations with France and Germany, whose territories adjoin this Protectorate on the north, east and west, have been of a cordial nature throughout the year.

State of Country.

The Protectorate generally may be considered as in a most peaceful state. In certain districts, however, which have no central form of Government, such as Lobi, Dagarti, and Frafra, caravans have been occasionally looted and raids made on neighbouring villages.

The difficulties of governing this part of the country are evident, when it is understood that the kings themselves have little or no power, and even when friendly disposed are quite helpless to prevent looting and raiding on the part of their people.

Every compound, consisting of perhaps only a dozen houses, is, in itself, a small kingdom. The kings, however, are well aware that unless they at once report all lawless acts they will be held responsible for the actions of their people.

A station was established at Salaga in June, 1902, and I am glad to be able to state the result has been most satisfactory. There has been a great influx of trade, and during the last three months nearly 500 new houses have been erected. I consider these satisfactory results are in a great measure due to the tact and skill which Captain Lonsdale, the District Commissioner, has displayed in his dealings with the various chiefs, who have had heavy calls made upon them in the supplying of labour for the transport of stores and construction of the road from Dogonkade to Khobia.

Crime.

As regards serious crime there has been a very marked decrease in the number of cases; I have no hesitation in asserting that the almost total absence of "murder" and "manslaughter" is due to the very stringent laws prohibiting the importation into the Protectorate of any trade spirits.

The following are the numbers of convictions, tabulated under specific crimes:—

Murder	1
Arson	1
Rape	1
Slave-dealing	7
Abduction and Kidnapping	3
Extortion and Blackmail	7
Looting	8
Theft	49
Assault	15
Contravention of Liquor Ordinance	2
„ „ Powder „	3
„ „ Town „	66
Other offences	62

Revenue.

The revenue received from all sources during the past year amounted to £11,988 19*s.* 7*d.*, being an increase of £1,695 7*s.* 5*d.* compared with 1902.

I am of opinion that this may be considered satisfactory, especially when it is taken into account that there is a decrease of £1,167 15*s.* in prospecting licence fees, rights of option, &c., owing to none having been taken out during 1903.

I append returns which show the amount of revenue collected in the different districts during each quarter, also the number of animals and loads on which taxes were levied during the same period, with a comparative statement showing the number in the previous year. A further return is attached showing the increase or decrease in the year's revenue under all heads compared with 1902. *Vide* Appendices I., II. and III.

Comparing the caravan tax return with 1902 it is found that the amount realised exceeds that of the previous year by £2,624 4*s.* 9*d.* The chief increase is in the number of sheep, 67,961 paying taxes against 43,194 in 1902.

There is also an increase of over 3,000 cattle and nearly 4,000 loads of kola-nuts.

These figures tend to show that there is a large general increase of trade.

The establishing a post at Salaga, as I anticipated in my report for 1901, has led to a considerable increase in the caravan tax, £3,083 0*s.* 3*d.* having been collected in this district

alone. Large quantities of salt, over 200 tons, were brought up by traders from Ada and taxed at Yeji.

A large trade is done at Salaga in shea-butter, tax having been paid on 2,614 loads; considerable quantities are exported to Ashanti and the coast.

Unlike all other taxes, this caravan tax is readily welcomed by the traders, who know that this Administration is responsible for the safety of their caravans, and that they will receive quick redress for any wrongs they may suffer. I regret to be obliged to report that the anticipated increase of revenue resulting from mining leases will not be realised, as both the Wa and Banda Syndicates have now found that gold does not exist in paying quantities on the properties which they had acquired in the Northern Territories, and they have therefore abandoned their camps at Abonku and Banda.

Trade Goods.

The Government Trade Goods Store at Gambaga is now being closed, as it has fully answered the purpose for which it was originally started, viz., as the pioneer of ordinary commerce, and to create a demand for goods which did not before exist. During the last two years the number of coast traders residing in Gambaga has greatly increased, being now more than double what it was in 1901; there is no longer therefore any necessity for continuing the Government Trade Goods Store.

The amount realised during the year by the sale of trade goods was £889 17*s.* 8*d.*

Silver Currency.

Throughout the Northern Territories there is an increasing demand for the English silver coinage, and its enormous advantages over the cowrie coinage are fully appreciated. In previous reports I have called attention to the fact that the threepenny (3*d.*) piece, the lowest silver coin now in circulation, is of too high a value (being equal to 250 cowries) to answer all requirements, as the native when doing his daily marketing makes many small purchases, varying in value from ten (10) to thirty (30) cowries each.

I again desire, therefore, most strongly to recommend the very early introduction of a subsidiary nickel coinage, and consider that the coins most required are a penny and a halfpenny piece, equivalent roughly to eighty (80) and forty (40) cowries respectively.

The introduction of copper coinage is not recommended, as, owing to its weight, its transport would be expensive, and the majority of the coins would be at once converted into rings and other ornaments.

General Health.

The general health of the Europeans stationed in the Protectorate may be considered as satisfactory during the past year: one officer died and one was invalided during this period.

The following table shows the comparative health of each station during the year:—

Month.	Gambaga.		Wa.		Kintampo.		Salaga.		Totals.	
	Strength.	Number on Sick List.	Strength.	Number on Sick List.	Strength	Number on Sick List.	Strength.	Number on Sick List.	Strength.	Number on Sick List.
January	7	2	2	0	8	4	4	2	21	8
February	6	1	3	0	5	2	2	1	16	4
March...	8	0	3	0	4	1	2	0	17	1
April	7	1	3	0	4	0	3	0	17	1
May	6	1	3	1	4	0	3	0	16	2
June	7	0	3	0	4	1	3	3	17	4
July	7	1	3	1	4	0	4	2	18	4
August	7	2	3	0	5	2	3	2	18	6
September	7	0	3	0	4	1	4	3	18	4
October	8	0	3	2	4	0	3	3	18	5
November	7	0	6	1	4	1	3	2	20	4
December	12	4	7	0	4	1	4	2	27	7

It will be seen that Salaga is by far the most unhealthy, while Gambaga has the healthiest record, taking into consideration the larger number of European officers stationed there.

I am decidedly of opinion that the climate of the Northern Territories is infinitely superior to that of the coast, and consider that there is no reason why officers, who take the ordinary precautions necessary for living in a tropical climate, should not enjoy fairly good health during their tour. Regular exercise is absolutely essential, and I attribute the good health enjoyed by officers in Gambaga to be in a great measure due to their having been able to play polo twice a week during the greater portion of the year. The heat of the sun is very great and helmets are ordered to be worn on all parades from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.; a thick spine pad is also necessary during the heat of the day. The Harmattan blows for four months of the year from November to February, giving delightfully cool nights, and generally bracing up one's energies.

Except during the rains the air generally of the Northern Territories is a dry one and free from the load of moisture that is so oppressive on the coast.

The health of the native officials, Gold Coast Regiment and carriers has been good.

An epidemic of small-pox broke out in Wa in March; rigorous isolation being enforced, the outbreak ceased in May. The total number of cases was 23, of which five died.

A second epidemic broke out in the town of Kintampo during April, 18 cases being reported of which three died; it was, however, stamped out by the beginning of May.

Gambaga is the only station at which meteorological returns are kept. The rainfall compared with other places in West Africa is a light one, but that of last year was the heaviest on record, being 45·98 inches as compared with 37·80 inches for 1902.

During the months of August and September 26·32 inches fell out of the above total.

Troops.

The organisation of the 2nd Battalion Gold Coast Regiment, which is the battalion quartered in these Territories, has been altered since the beginning of the year; it now consists of six (6) companies, each containing eighty (80) privates, instead of three (3) companies of one hundred and fifty (150) as previously; it was found that the large companies were quite unsuitable

for the proper administration of the Protectorate, owing to the many detachments that had to be furnished.

In addition to the regular troops I have at my disposal a small troop of Irregular Cavalry (30 strong), retainers of the ex-king of Moshi, who resides at Zangoiri, a few miles from Gambaga; these men are volunteers, and are brought into Gambaga every year for about a month, during which they are put through a course of musketry and are taught a few simple movements of mounted drill.

They receive 2*s*. a day each for the time they are up for training or are employed on any expedition, providing and feeding their own horses.

These men have been used by me on several expeditions, and I have no hesitation in saying that for scouting, driving in small detached bodies of the enemy, following up a beaten foe or capturing cattle they are simply invaluable, and form a very important addition to the troops serving in the Northern Territories.

The behaviour of the troops generally has been extremely good, there having been very few cases of serious crime. There were 23 desertions during the past year, 12 of them being recruits with only a very few weeks' service. It is worthy of record that these men, when deserting, nearly always leave their equipment and uniform behind them, a matter of much importance when one considers how easily any man dressed in uniform, no matter how ancient, can "blackmail" a village, and impose upon the credulous inhabitants by pretending that he is an emissary from Government.

The musketry of the battalion has much improved, due in a great measure to each man firing regularly 10 rounds every month in addition to his annual course.

Recruiting.

Recruiting has been carried on with success during the year, 199 recruits having been obtained, as against 187 in 1902.

One hundred and twelve recruits were transferred to the battalion in Ashanti. I consider that this Protectorate is a most valuable recruiting ground; the men are of excellent physique, most amenable to discipline and very anxious to learn their work. Service in the local battalion is very popular, but recruits do not appreciate being transferred to the battalion in Ashanti, several men out of every draft deserting on their way down country.

I have shown in the table below the various tribes from which the recruits were enlisted during the past year.

Chakosis.	Dagartis.	Dagombas.	Frafras.	Grumahs.	Grunshis.	Guanjahs.	Hausas.	Kanjargas.	Kipalsis.	Kotokolis.	Moshis.	Wongaras.	Yorubas.	Zabarimahs.	TOTAL.
5	12	20	5	8	22	6	10	10	1	3	54	14	6	23	199

MAPS AND ITINERARIES.

During the year considerable progress has been made in the sketching of the Protectorate.

In the Kintampo District all the main roads and nearly all the secondary roads to the south of the River Volta have been sketched by Captain Read; a small portion only of this district now remains to be sketched, viz.:—that lying between the Black and White Volta Rivers in the north of the district.

Lieutenant Partridge made sketches of the country extending from Gambaga to nearly 40 miles to the south and west, also of the north-western portions of the Black Volta District lying between 10° and 11° north latitude and 2° and 2° 45′ west longitude.

An elaborate sketch was made of the Volta from Yeji to Wuyima by Captain O'Kinealy.

Sketches on a large scale have also been made of the environs of Gambaga, Salaga, Wa and Kintampo, showing the country round to a radius of five miles.

Itineraries have been made of all the main roads as well as many of the secondary roads in the Northern Territories. Two itineraries have been made of each road traversed, the one compiled in the dry season and the other during the rains.

COTTON GROWING.

The question of cotton growing has been having my serious attention during the past year.

The main requirements for the successful cultivation of cotton would appear to be (1) a suitable soil, (2) a sufficient rainfall at stated seasons of the year, with a regular dry season so that the crop can be gathered without fear of rain, (3) sufficient labour, (4) transport facilities.

This Protectorate undoubtedly possesses the first three requirements, cotton being extensively grown in many parts; a

sample of cotton collected in Dagomba last April was reported on at Liverpool as well worth ¼*d.* per lb. over middling American; from Moshi also, which is the country bordering on the Northern Territories, cloths of the most excellent description are brought, all of which have been made from native-grown cotton.

The successful cultivation of cotton, therefore, in the Northern Territories for export to England would appear to me solely to depend on the facilities of transport.

It is therefore absolutely necessary that the cotton should be grown in the closest proximity to the Volta River, so that advantage can be taken of its transport service; I have made enquiries from the large salt traders who bring up salt from Ada to Yeji and Daboya, and am informed by them that they would be willing to take down large canoe loads of cotton from Yeji to Ada at the rate of £5 per canoe; assuming that each canoe would carry a ton, the transport charge would thus be at the rate of about ½*d.* per lb. I instructed the District Commissioner at Salaga to sow some cotton seed which was received from Aburi; the experiment was not successful, on account of the seed having deteriorated to a great extent owing to its transit *viâ* the Volta during the rainy season. A further experiment was tried, about two acres being sown with native seed; this experiment was successful, and samples of cotton have been sent to the curator at Aburi to report as to its value. It is to be hoped that arrangements will be made for a cotton expert to visit Salaga, so as to give instructions in improved methods of cultivation. I am strongly of opinion that the cultivation of cotton should be left in the hands of the native kings and chiefs, who it is considered will take up its cultivation readily as soon as they see an early prospect of a good profit resulting to themselves from their labours; the chiefs should in the first instance be provided with all the seed, implements, &c., they may require, and be given expert advice.

Harvest and Food Supply.

The harvest during the past year was good throughout the Protectorate in spite of the very light rainfall during June and July.

It is very satisfactory to be able to report that every year there is an increase in the number of acres put under cultivation, and more food brought into the markets. The Commissioner of the Black Volta District informs me that during his recent tour through the north-western portions of his district, he was much struck with the very large proportion of ground under cultivation in the Lobi-Dagarti country, as well as with the amount of intelligence shown in the manner of draining and keeping back the water. The system adopted by

the Germans in their colonies of carefully training their soldiers and police during their service in the scientific use of farm implements and improved methods of cultivation would appear to be well worthy of imitation, as these men are thus able to impart their knowledge to others on returning to their villages.

The excessive mortality amongst horses and cattle throughout the whole Protectorate is a matter of much importance, and I would suggest that these territories may be visited by a veterinary surgeon with a view of finding out, if possible, the causes of the disease.

The mortality amongst the cattle may, I think, be attributed in a great measure to their eating a poisonous shrub which is very common round Gambaga.

As regards the horses their death is, in the majority of cases, undoubtedly due to a deadly parasite in the blood. Dr. Le Fanu made a microscopic examination of the blood of several sick horses and found in them the *Trypanosome*. The disease is in many respects akin to Surra, of which I saw many cases when in Upper Burma, but there the action of the disease was far more rapid than it is here.

Horticultural.

The seeds sown in the Government gardens at the headquarters of the various districts have been a great success this year. Radishes, tomatoes, french beans, garden eggs, cabbages, lettuces, kohl rabi, turnips, and cucumbers have been grown with most satisfactory results. At Gambaga at the beginning of October a new garden was made along the banks of a stream; owing to its being sheltered by trees vegetables have been successfully grown here throughout the whole of the Harmattan season, a result never attained in previous years.

In order, however, to grow English vegetables with any degree of success in this country, it is absolutely necessary that the garden should be under careful European supervision, as the native "gardener" has no idea of growing vegetables by a succession of sowings, his great ambition being to have the garden full of vegetables at one time: all vegetables must be grown under grass shelters and be liberally watered twice a day; a judicious use of manure is also essential. During the past year over 500 guava, mango, citron, orange and lime trees have been planted out in Gambaga, and are doing extremely well. On my way up country last April I visited the Botanical Gardens at Aburi and arranged with the curator there to send a further supply of banana shoots, pine-apples, mango, and sour sop cuttings; these were despatched during the rains and arrived in very good condition owing to the excellent manner in which they had been packed; they were planted immediately on their arrival, and are now very forward.

Avenues of rubber-vine trees nearly two miles in length have been planted in the Cantonments and along the road leading to the Chief Commissioner's house, thus greatly improving the appearance of the station.

Transport.

Considerable reductions have been effected in the cost of transport during 1903; in previous years it cost £100 per ton to carry stores from the coast to Gambaga; since the Volta River Transport Service was started the cost has been reduced to about £40 per ton.

The stores are now being brought to Yeji, and distributed from there to the various stations; there is an ample supply of local carriers available for transport, as both the Gonja and Dagomba districts are thickly populated.

A system was adopted last year, under which no carriers were taken outside their own districts, so that no men were ever away from their homes more than a week at a time.

Head-money was paid to the chiefs at the rate of one penny (1*d.*) per day for each carrier supplied. These arrangements have worked well and the head-money was much appreciated, especially by the big kings of Dagomba, who at a few hours' notice can easily supply several hundred men.

Some "Larymore" carts have now been ordered, as I am of opinion that mono-wheel transport can be used with great advantage along the Salaga-Gambaga permanent road for at least eight (8) months of the year.

If these carts prove a success there will be a great saving in the cost of the transport, as only two carriers are required for each cart, so that assuming that each carrier load weighs ½ cwt. and the cart carries six cwts. (which is less than its inventor claims for it) there will thus be a saving of ten (10) carriers for every cart employed.

Transport of Mails.

Since June, 1903, the mails for Gambaga have been sent up *viâ* Attabubu and Salaga and thence along the new road *viâ* Khobia and Patenga; the adoption of this route has resulted in the mails from Kumasi being delivered at least six days quicker than by the old route *viâ* Kintampo and Daboya. The experiment is now being tried of using soldiers on bicycles to carry the mails; so far the experiment has proved a great success, as the journey from Salaga to Gambaga is being done in three days.

The road is heavy, but the native custom of walking one after the other down the centre of the road has formed a natural bicycle track.

I am opinion that it will be possible for the mails to be carried in this manner for about seven-and-a-half months, *i.e.*, from the middle of November to the end of June.

Roads.

The permanent road between Gambaga and Salaga, *viâ* Patenga and Khobia, has been now completed; it is 150 miles long, 16 feet wide, with shallow ditches on either side. The road has been made entirely by local labour, and each king is now held responsible for keeping such portion of it cleared as runs through his district, receiving at the end of the year a small subsidy, according to the mileage. Owing to several villages on the road between Yabum and Wa having been abandoned, it was found necessary to open up a new road; a road has been therefore cleared from Wa to Gambaga, *viâ* Bolunga, Kullum, and Komporogu, joining the old main road from Gambaga at Bimba.

All the other existing roads in the Protectorate have been kept cleared.

Buildings.

Experience and the arrival of carpenters have led to great improvements in the various buildings erected during the past year.

Carriers have been trained as sawyers, and a supply of very fair timber has been found along the banks of the large streams. The following new buildings have been erected, viz.:—At Gambaga an officers' mess house has been built, also quarters for five officers; each battery and company has been provided with a building consisting of office, store-house for clothing, &c., and arms house, the two latter possessing fire-proof roofs.

At Kintampo two officers' quarters, a large transit store-house, and a prison yard with brick cells have been made.

At Salaga the following buildings have been completed, viz.:—Quarters for one officer, guard-room, treasury, magazine, orderly-room, transit and local store-houses.

At Wa no fresh buildings have been made, but the whole cantonments have been considerably improved.

Legislation.

In this Protectorate the power of legislation is vested by the Northern Territories Order in Council in the Governor of the Gold Coast alone.

During the past year the only Ordinance made has been the River Ordinance, which is practically a transcript of the Gold Coast Rivers Ordinance of 1903.

This Ordinance applies to the Volta and its tributaries, the White Volta and Black Volta.

Regulations have been made by the Governor as to the preservation of wild animals in the Northern Territories under the Wild Animals Preservation Ordinance of 1901.

Under Section 21 of the Northern Territories Administration Ordinance rules have been made by the Chief Commissioner and approved by the Governor for carrying into effect the prohibition of the introduction of trade spirit into the Protectorate.

Under section 23 of the same Ordinance rules have been similarly made with respect to prisons and also with respect to the regulation of towns and villages.

A. MORRIS, Lieutenant-Colonel,
Chief Commissioner, Northern Territories.

Gambaga,
29th February, 1904.

APPENDIX I.—GENERAL REVENUE.

RETURN showing AMOUNT of REVENUE realised in the NORTHERN TERRITORIES during the YEAR 1903.

Quarter ending.	Districts.	Caravan Tax	Slaughtering Fees.	Court Fees and Fines	Sale of Trade Goods.	Sale of Live Stock.	Sale of Rations.	Stall-holders' Fees.	Sale of Stamps, Cards and Envelopes, and Duty on Parcels.	Ferry Dues.	Shooting Licence.	From Officers employing Carriers as Servants.	Grand Total.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
31st March, 1903 ..	White Volta	429 9 6	34 0 0	63 18 0	119 4 3	29 10 0	35 7 2	9 14 0	0 16 9	—	—	3 0 0	734 19 8
30th June, 1903	"	192 4 6	34 8 6	53 8 6	68 9 3	189 14 0	71 6 3	10 5 0	0 10 4	2 1 9	5 10 0	—	627 18 1
30th September, 1903 ..	"	70 1 6	29 6 6	80 0 6	137 12 9	160 1 0	58 14 10	10 10 0	—	17 6 3	1 10 0	—	565 3 4
31st December, 1903 ..	"	332 3 0	29 15 6	29 11 6	564 11 5	22 7 0	87 3 2	10 8 0	—	8 5 3	1 0 0	—	1,085 4 10
		1,023 18 6	127 10 6	226 18 6	889 17 8	411 12 0	252 11 5	40 17 0	1 7 1	27 13 3	8 0 0	3 0 0	3,013 5 11
31st March, 1903 ..	Black Volta	407 16 6	19 9 6	23 8 0	—	—	10 4 3	—	0 19 8	—	—	—	461 17 11
30th June, 1903	"	289 18 6	18 1 0	13 1 3	—	2 16 0	25 14 4	0 17 0	0 13 1	—	1 10 0	—	352 11 2
30th September, 1903 ..	"	386 10 9	17 11 0	31 1 0	—	23 17 0	18 11 9	2 11 0	0 6 1	10 0 0	—	—	490 8 7
31st December, 1903 ..	"	480 19 3	20 13 6	25 3 3	—	9 17 6	28 16 2	2 11 0	1 8 1	—	1 0 0	—	570 8 9
		1,565 5 0	75 15 0	92 13 6	—	36 10 6	83 6 6	5 19 0	3 6 11	10 0 0	2 10 0	—	1,875 6 5
31st March, 1903 ..	Kintampo..	1,377 18 0	26 15 6	6 12 0	—	86 0 6	46 3 4	—	46 5 8	—	—	—	1,589 15 0
30th June, 1903	" ..	983 13 6	22 2 6	15 4 3	—	—	29 8 2	—	30 8 4	—	12 0 0	—	1,092 16 9
30th September, 1903 ..	" ..	366 16 6	19 16 6	10 10 6	—	—	47 18 7	5 3 0	26 9 11	—	—	—	476 15 0
31st December, 1903 ..	" ..	502 6 6	20 1 0	4 13 0	—	0 12 0	47 8 4	5 11 0	20 17 3	—	—	—	601 9 1
		3,230 14 6	88 15 6	36 19 9	—	86 12 6	170 18 5	10 14 0	124 1 2	—	12 0 0	—	3,760 15 10
31st March, 1903 ..	Gonja ..	1,013 1 0	16 3 6	3 9 0	—	1 5 0	18 1[illegible] 2	—	0 11 6	—	—	—	1,053 6 2
30th June, 1903	" ..	604 3 0	16 19 0	3 15 0	—	9 0 0	25 17 9	2 19 0	0 4 10	—	1 10 0	—	664 8 7
30th September, 1903 ..	" ..	775 9 0	18 17 6	1 19 6	—	4 0 0	31 12 4	6 9 0	1 5 1	—	1 0 0	—	840 12 5
31st December, 1903 ..	" ..	690 7 3	23 15 6	35 8 8	—	0 16 0	23 6 8	6 5 6	1 4 8	—	—	—	781 4 3
		3,083 0 3	75 15 6	44 12 2	—	15 1 0	99 12 11	15 13 6	3 6 1	—	2 10 0	—	[illegible],339 11 5
Grand Total ..	.. ..	8,902 18 3	367 16 6	401 3 11	889 17 8	549 16 0	606 9 3	73 3 6	132 1 3	37 13 3	25 0 0	3 0 0	11,988 19 7

GAMBAGA,
29th February, 1904.

A. MORRIS, LIEUT-COLONEL, *Chief Commissioner*,
Northern Territories.

APPENDIX II.

RETURN of ANIMALS and LOADS on which TAXES were collected in the NORTHERN TERRITORIES during the YEAR 1903.

Quarter ending	Districts	Horses.	Cattle.	Calves.	Donkeys.	Sheep.	Lambs.	Ostriches.	Loads. Kola-nuts.	Cloth.	Shea-Butter.	Dawa-dawa.	Salt.	Beads	Cowries.	Tobacco	Mats.	Leather.	Brass Rods.	Onions.	Ivories.	Native Hoes.	Donkeys carrying Loads.	Miscellaneous.	Amount. £	s.	d.
1903.																											
31st March ..	White Volta	96	995	—	1,515	4,049	—	—	—	24	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	429	9	6
30th June ..	„	29	555	—	513	1,977	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	192	4	6
30th September	„	8	286	—	31	923	—	—	—	9	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	70	1	6
31st December	„	34	970	—	881	3,462	—	—	—	27	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	332	3	0
		167	2,786	—	2,940	10,411	—	—	—	70	—	—	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,023	18	6
1903.																											
31st March ..	Black Volta	12	791	7	697	6,506	36	4	21	37	24	88	138	2	26	5	—	1	—	11	2	—	73	7	407	16	6
30th June ..	„	1	701	9	186	3,801	198	5	58	26½	3	245	124	2	10½	1	1	—	—	17	4	1	71	1	289	18	6
30th September	„	11	1,094	7	54	4,008	63	—	111½	125½	33	394	165	9	29	6	3	—	—	22	—	46	54	—	386	10	9
31st December	„	5	1,252	9	417	5,666	47	—	72	110	21	466	165	2	21	3	4	—	—	3	2	11	78	1	480	19	3
		29	3,838	32	1,354	19,981	344	9	262½	299	81	1,193	612	15	86½	15	8	1	—	53	8	58	276	9	1,565	5	0
1903.																											
31st March ..	Kintampo	11	622	—	551	5,323	—	—	6,761½	441½	45	28	160	44	5	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	31	1,377	18	0
30th June ..	„	7	387	—	216	3,798	—	—	4,978	321	21½	12	109	71	5	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	46	983	13	6
30th September	„	—	160	1	10	1,052	—	—	1,785	219½	89	14	43	66	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	39½	366	16	6
31st December	„	1	248	—	139	1,561	—	—	2,297	273	108	50	92½	100½	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	39	502	6	6
		19	1,417	1	916	11,734	—	—	15,821½	1,255	263½	104	404½	281½	10	62	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	155½	3,230	14	6
1903.																											
31st March ..	Gonja ..	84	1,411	4	1,752	10,556	8	—	816	225	340	117	399	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	297	510	1,013	1	0
30th June ..	„ ..	29	1,008	—	732	7,105	2	—	361	272	454	237	363	1	—	2	49	5	—	—	2	—	—	22	604	3	0
30th September	„ ..	7	838	—	80	3,803	2	—	145	286	502½	160	4,238	—	—	4	5	17	—	—	—	—	—	19	775	9	0
31st December	„ ..	11	1,058	2	415	4,371	15	—	149	192½	973½	216½	1,817	1	—	1	22	3	47½	—	—	7	—	273½	690	7	3
		131	4,315	6	2,979	25,835	27	—	1,471	975½	2,270	730½	6,817	2	—	7	76	25	47½	—	2	7	297	824½	3,083	0	3
Grand Total	.. ..	316	12,356	39	8,189	67,961	371	9	17,555	2,599½	2,614½	2,027½	7,863½	298½	96½	84	84	26	47½	53	10	65	573	989	8,902	18	3

GAMBAGA,
29th February, 1904.

A. MORRIS, LIEUT.-COLONEL, *Chief Commissioner*,
NORTHERN TERRITORIES.

RETURN of ANIMALS and LOADS on which TAXES were collected in the NORTHERN TERRITORIES during the YEAR 1902.

Quarter ending	Districts.	Horses.	Cattle.	Calves.	Donkeys.	Sheep.	Lambs.	Loads.								Amount.
								Kola-nuts.	Salt.	Cloth.	Beads.	Cowries.	Hoes.	Donkeys carrying Miscellaneous Loads.	Miscel-laneous.	
1902.																£ s. d.
31st March ..	White Volta	38	573	—	968	2,487	—	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	256 2 6
30th June ..	"	21	126	—	136	542	—	6	8	20	—	—	—	—	—	54 9 0
30th September	"	3	134	—	4	219	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27 12 6
31st December..	"	37	723	—	858	3,311	—	—	1	17	—	—	—	—	10½	292 2 6
		99	1,556	—	1,966	6,559	—	32	9	37	—	—	—	—	10½	630 6 6
1902.																
31st March ..	Black Volta	19	1,635	15	2,000	9,751	15	558	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	760 8 9
30th June ..	"	6	656	8	256	3,129	110	28	88	32	—	—	8	18	—	226 9 6
30th September	"	9	854	5	39	2,943	69	29	173	81½	5	13½	21	19	195	269 18 3
31st December..	"	4	1,139	18	576	5,880	37	51	93	78	3	7	13	113	186	446 10 3
		38	4,284	46	2,871	21,703	231	666	354	191½	8	20½	42	154	381	1,703 6 9
1902.																
31st March ..	Kintampo..	12	505	—	229	3,347	—	5,474½	76	322	36½	2	—	2,278	168½	1,250 9 3
30th June ..	" ..	4	229	—	44	1,654	—	3,6[illegible]	136	337½	111	1	—	898	112	694 12 3
30th September	" ..	—	130	—	3	681	—	704½	140	374½	92	26	—	35	146½	201 4 9
31st December..	" ..	2	228	—	51	1,398	—	3,131½	37	383	132	—	—	486	165	760 17 6
		18	1,092	—	327	7,080	—	12,939½	389	1,417	371½	29	—	3,697	592	2,907 3 9
1902.																
31st March ..	Gonja ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30th June ..	" ..	2	360	15	46	1,347	5	—	3	—	7	97	—	—	—	173 19 3
30th September	" ..	1	707	28	8	1,682	6	—	37	1,356	—	—	—	3	—	276 9 6
31st December..	" ..	26	997	4	622	4,823	11	196	79	1,246¾	—	—	—	151	500½	587 7 9
		29	2,064	47	676	7,852	22	196	119	2,602¾	7	97	—	154	500½	1,037 16 6
GRAND TOTAL	.. ..	184	8,996	93	5,840	43,194	253	13,833½	871	4,247½	386½	146½	42	4,005	1,484	6,278 13 6

GAMBAGA,
4th March, 1903.

R. A. IRVINE, MAJOR, *Acting Chief Commissioner*,
NORTHERN TERRITORIES.

APPENDIX III.

COMPARATIVE RETURN of REVENUE received in the NORTHERN TERRITORIES, GOLD COAST, 1902 and 1903.

Source of Revenue.	1902.	1903.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Caravan Taxes	6,278 13 6	8,902 18 3	2,624 4 9	—
Prospecting Licence Fees, &c. ..	1,167 15 0	—	—	1,167 15 0
Slaughter Taxes	307 19 0	367 16 6	59 17 6	—
Court Fines and Fees	386 19 3	401 3 11	14 4 8	—
Sale of Trade Goods	885 2 0	889 17 8	4 15 8	—
Sale of Live Stock	727 3 6	549 16 0	—	177 7 6
Sale of Rations	387 12 11	606 9 3	218 16 4	—
Stall-holders' Fees	40 13 0	73 3 6	32 10 6	—
Sale of Stamps, Cards, Envelopes, and Duty on Parcels.	72 2 9	132 1 3	59 18 6	—
Ferry Dues	15 2 3	37 13 3	22 11 0	—
From Officers employing Carriers as Servants.	24 9 0	3 0 0	—	21 9 0
Shooting Licence	—	25 0 0	25 0 0	—
TOTALS	10,293 12 2	11,988 19 7	3,061 18 11	1,366 11 6

	£ s. d.
TOTAL REVENUE 1903..	11,988 19 7
" " 1902..	10,293 12 2
TOTAL INCREASE	1,695 7 5

A. MORRIS, LIEUT-COLONEL,

Chief Commissioner,

NORTHERN TERRITORIES.

GAMBAGA,

29th February, 1904.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
412	Mauritius	1902
413	British Guiana	1902–1903
414	Jamaica	„
—	Bahamas (Printed separately as [Cd. 1895]) ...	1902
415	Falkland Islands	1902–1903
416	Leeward Islands	„
417	British Honduras	1903
418	Bermuda...	„
419	Weihaiwei	„
420	St. Helena	„
421	Hong Kong	„
422	Gibraltar...	„
423	Sierra Leone	„
424	Gambia	„
425	Ceylon	„
426	Gold Coast	„
427	Lagos	„
428	Bahamas	1903–1904

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
20	Weihaiwei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.
22	Seychelles	Report on Para Rubber.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacou.
25	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague, 1903.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies... ...	Medical Reports.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, Ltd., 34-40, Bacon Street, E.

1904.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 457.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1904.

(For Report for 1903, *see* No. 429.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

September, 1905.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
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1905.

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
POLITICAL	5
STATE OF COUNTRY	5
CRIME...	6
REVENUE	7
TRADE	7
SILVER CURRENCY	8
ROADS...	9
TRANSPORT	9
BUILDINGS	9
HARVEST AND FOOD SUPPLY	9
PRODUCTS AND RESOURCES	10
HORTICULTURE	11
HEALTH	11
TROOPS	12
RECRUITING	12
MAPS AND ITINERARIES	13
LEGISLATION	13

APPENDICES.

I. REVENUE RETURNS	14
II. RETURN OF ANIMALS AND LOADS ON WHICH TAXES WERE COLLECTED...	16
III. COMPARATIVE REVENUE RETURN, 1903 AND 1904	18
IV. REPORT FOR 1904 ON THE GARDEN AT GAMBAGA	19

No. 457.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

(For Report for 1903 *see* No. 429.)

ACTING GOVERNOR BRYAN to MR. LYTTELTON.

Government House,

Accra,

24th June 1905.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you, herewith, the annual report on the Northern Territories for the year 1904, which has been carefully prepared by Major R. A. Irvine, the acting Chief Commissioner, who has been administering the Protectorate since Lieutenant Colonel A. Morris., C.M.G., D.S.O., left Gambaga on relinquishing his appointment on the 11th of May, 1904, up to the present date.

2. The report shows that good work has been done and progress well maintained throughout the year in this portion of the hinterland, and I am glad to be able to state that there is every indication that the number of inter-tribal disturbances and raids on caravans, which a few years ago were of common occurrence, are rapidly diminishing. The demand for goods of European manufacture, and the increase in the number of petty traders from the coast towns tend to show that the population is recovering from the devastating raids of Samory in 1895-97. The Trade Goods Stores which were established by the late Lieutenant Colonel H. P. Northcott, C.B., in 1898, with a view to encourage trade by familiarizing the natives with imported cloths, prints, &c., appear to have answered their purpose and have now been closed.

3. The facts that individual traders now visit many parts of the Protectorate where a few years ago they would not have dared to venture, and that summonses are now served by the Court Messengers in districts where formerly it would have been necessary to send a party of soldiers, afford strong evidence that the measures taken for the protection of life and property are effective and appreciated, and also that the chiefs

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are beginning to realise their responsibilities in bringing offenders to justice and maintaining order in their districts.

4. The importation of firearms, ammunition, and gunpowder was prohibited (except by licence of the Chief Commissioner), under a penalty of £100, or imprisonment with or without hard labour for a period not exceeding 12 months, by the Northern Territories Ordinance No. 3 of 1904, and the weapons of offence and defence in the Protectorate are practically confined to bows and arrows (frequently poisoned), spears, swords, &c., except in the Dagomba District where the inhabitants have secured a few Dane guns.

5. The importation of spirits was formally prohibited in 1900.

6. With reference to paragraph 18 of this report, I have informed the acting Chief Commissioner that it has been definitely decided that the bronze coinage in circulation thoughout Great Britain and in most of the Colonies should be adopted in the Gold Coast and its dependencies, and have directed him to give effect to this decision. It is obvious that if 1,000 cowries are the equivalent of 1*s.* at Gambaga, the comparative weight of 12 pennies cannot be considered excessive.

7. The acting Chief Commissioner considers that cotton-growing could be made remunerative provided that regular markets were established and an undertaking given that all cotton grown would be purchased from the chiefs at a minimum price. In view of the expenditure which is already being incurred by this Colony on experimental cotton farms at Anum and Labolabo I am unable to hold out any hope that financial assistance can be given to the suggested scheme at present. I have, however, referred this portion of the report to the Director of Agriculture for his observations.

8. The health of the Europeans is usually comparatively good in the Northern Territories and the year 1904 did not prove an exception.

9. The annual report on the garden at Gambaga (Appendix IV. to this report) is interesting and instructive, and the Senior Medical Officer, Dr. W. M. Graham, has evidently devoted much time and care both to the garden itself and to the preparation of his valuable report.

I have, &c.,

H. Bryan,

Acting Governor.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR THE YEAR 1904.

Political.

1. During the year under review, our relations with the local representatives of France and Germany were of a cordial nature.

2. The Anglo-French boundary along the 11th parallel of north latitude was beaconed, between the 9th July and the 19th October, by Captain J. O'Kinealy, Royal Artillery, and Lieutenant F. Verlague, the British and French Commissioners respectively.

3. The Anglo-German boundary, from the 9th parallel of north latitude to the boundary of the French Soudan, was also beaconed by Captain H. B. Des Voeux, R.E., and Freiherr Von Seefried, the British and German Commissioners respectively, between the 13th November and the 30th December last.

4. The boundaries between this Protectorate and France on the north and west, and Germany on the east, have now been finally delimited and beaconed.

State of Country.

5. In the early part of the year some disturbances took place in Lobi-Dagarti, which necessitated the despatch on three occasions of small parties of soldiers under European officers to restore order. And the Chief Commissioner early in March found it necessary to proceed with a strong escort to Kandigar, a large district lying about six miles south of the 11th parallel of north latitude, and about 0·58′ west longitude, to punish the people living there for looting traders and caravans. He accomplished his object successfully, only one private being wounded, and then returned to Gambaga, visiting a number of towns *en route*, which were supposed to be hostile to our rule, but met with little or no opposition, as all the towns proved friendly with the exception of Sherrigu, where a few arrows were fired at some of our camp followers drawing water.

6. The great difficulty in dealing with the people of Lobi-Dagarti and other outlying parts of the Protectorate is that they recognize no central form of authority amongst themselves, every compound owner being a law unto himself. But, I am glad to be able to report that they are now beginning to realize the futility of trying to oppose the authority of the Government, and to understand that only those who defy it will be punished.

7. In districts where the authority of the chiefs is recognized, they are required to report all serious offences such as murder,

manslaughter, looting caravans, &c., which occur in their districts, and, if possible, bring the offenders to justice; otherwise, they render themselves liable to punishment. This procedure has been found to act very well, as there are not nearly so many complaints now of looting, brought in by headmen of caravans, traders and others, as formerly.

8. Individual traders now visit many parts of the Protectorate, where a few years ago they dared not venture for fear of being either killed or robbed. And summonses are now served by Court Messengers in many places where it would a short time ago have been necessary to send a party of soldiers—one reason for this being that the people are beginning to understand that a summons does not necessarily imply they will be punished if they answer it.

The state of the Protectorate, taken as a whole, during the past year, may, therefore, be considered quite peaceful, with the exception of the districts already referred to.

Crime.

9. Considering the extent of these Territories, there has been comparatively little serious crime during the past twelve months. Looting and stealing cattle is the most prevalent offence. Slave-dealing although still prevalent is gradually being suppressed.

The following are the number of convictions, in the Chief and District Commissioners' Courts, tabulated under specified crimes:—

Manslaughter	1
Rape	2
Robbery with violence	10
Kidnapping	3
Arson	1
Slave-dealing	17
Aiding and abetting in felony	4
Abduction	3
Stealing	59
False pretences	2
Blackmailing	2
Causing bodily harm	3
Perjury	1
Assault	32
Fabrication of evidence	1
Escaping from lawful custody	6
Contempt of court	8
Prison Ordinance	1
Towns Ordinance	131
Spirit Ordinance	17
Political	5
Other offences	8
	317

Revenue.

10. The revenue received from all sources during the year under review amounted to £12,524 2*s.* 4*d.*, being an increase of £560 6*s.* 7*d.* compared with the previous year. This, I think, may be considered a satisfactory increase, as a decrease of £723 6*s.* 8*d.* is shown owing to the Trade Goods Store at Gambaga having been closed in April, as it was found to have answered the purpose for which it was established, namely:—to encourage trade by creating a demand for articles of European manufacture which were seldom seen in the market at Gambaga when the store was opened.

11. I append returns which show the amount of revenue collected in the different districts during each quarter of the year; the number of animals and loads on which caravan taxes were levied, with totals appended giving the number taxed in 1903; and the increase in the year's revenue compared with 1903, *vide* Appendices I., II., and III.

12. With regard to the increase of £1,181 11*s.* 6*d.* in the caravan taxes, it will be seen on referring to Appendices II. and III., that there has been an increase in the amounts received under all the important heads, except that of kola-nuts which shows a decrease of £190 10*s* 0*d.* compared with 1903. This decrease may be accounted for by the large number of loads now taxed in Ashanti previous to their being brought into this Protectorate.

13. The large increase in the number of bags of salt taxed is mainly due to there having been an officer stationed at Yeji for a large portion of the year to superintend its collection, and to the precautions now taken to prevent the tax being evaded.

Trade.

14. The number of petty coast traders selling European goods in all the markets of the Protectorate continues to increase yearly, thus showing that there is an increasing demand for articles of European manufacture, such as:—cotton prints, white and blue baft, towels, linen, coloured yarns—red, green, purple, and yellow being the favourite colours—large silk and "coral" handkerchiefs of variegated colours, red and green fezzes, little boxes of scent with looking glasses, antimony used for the eyes, pomade, hair pins, cheap pipes, sugar, indigo blue, various kinds of cheap knives, buttons, needles, thread, small alarm clocks, matches, enamelled ware, small brass or bronze kettles, cheap umbrellas, small mirrors, and copper and brass rods, &c. Most of the cotton goods and nearly all the miscellaneous articles exposed for sale in the markets are of German manufacture and come from Togoland. A large store, however, has been built at Kintampo, by a coast native, for the sale of European goods to be supplied from Kumasi, and I understand he is doing very well.

15. Owing to the increased demand for European goods, there has been a corresponding decrease in the amount of native garments and cloth sold, although the trade done in these articles is still very large. The greater portion of the native garments and cloth is imported from Moshi and the Hausa States, the balance being manufactured locally, and this local industry is increasing.

16. Salt continues to be imported in increasing quantities from Ada, *viâ* the River Volta, in large canoes, and yet the supply is not equal to the demand, although at present salt is too expensive for the poorer natives to purchase. They employ as a substitute water which has been passed several times through the ashes of a tree called Doria. The method of extraction is as follows:—the ashes are placed in a large calabash with a number of small holes in the bottom; over the ashes water is poured which percolates through the holes, being received into another calabash. This process is repeated until the water acquires a brackish taste. The water is then preserved and used in small quantities for cooking.

17. The demand has increased for the small stalls built by the Government in the markets at Wa, Kintampo, Salaga, and Gambaga, for which a small monthly fee is charged, ranging from 1*s.* to 3*s.*, according to the size of the stall. The amount derived from this toll has risen from £46 10*s.* in 1902 to £97 7*s.* 3*d.* in 1904.

Silver Currency.

18. British silver continues to increase greatly in circulation within the Protectorate. Formerly natives who brought produce into the several markets were reluctant to take silver in payment, preferring cowries; now it is just the reverse. Yet cowries still appear to retain their former value, as they are indispensable for the purchase of small articles of less value than a threepenny piece, no copper coins being in circulation, nor do I recommend their being introduced, as owing to their weight the consequent cost of transport would be excessive.

But I am convinced that, if a subsidiary nickel coinage—strongly recommended in previous reports—were introduced, it would be very advantageous, as in a short time the present value of cowries would become greatly depreciated in the principal markets of the Protectorate. I may mention that at Gambaga the present ratio of exchange in cowries is 1000 to 1*s.*

19. Brass and copper rods are also used as a medium of exchange, but chiefly in the outlying districts. On referring to Appendix I., it will be seen that there were five times more loads of brass rods taxed last year than in 1903, and that there was a marked decrease in the number of cowrie loads taxed.

Roads.

20. A new road was made between Yeji and Salaga; the road between Dogonkade and Kwobia was completed; and all the existing roads in the Protectorate were cleared and kept in proper repair.

Transport.

21. The stores required for use in these Territories are now sent from Kumasi to Yeji and Kintampo for distribution. This arrangement not only facilitates transport, but also effects a saving in its cost, as Gambaga is several days' march nearer Yeji than Kintampo.

22. Carriers engaged locally, for the transport of stores between stations, are employed, as far as the exigencies of the service will permit, in their own districts. They receive 6*d*. a day when carrying loads and 3*d*. a day on the return journey, the chiefs who supply them being paid headmoney at the rate of 1*d*. a day for each carrier employed.

From November to the middle of April there is not much difficulty in obtaining the necessary carriers, as the labouring classes have little or no work to do on their farms during this period; but when the rains commence they are naturally reluctant to leave their farms, consequently every effort is made in the Protectorate to obviate the necessity of calling on the chiefs to supply carriers during the rainy season.

At Kintampo a house containing quarters for two officers, sioner in his annual report for 1903 unfortunately did not arrive at Yeji in time to be experimented with during the year.

Buildings.

24. At Yeji a number of new buildings were erected, viz:— two large houses each containing quarters for one European officer, a large transit store, guard-room, magazine, and treasury vault, all with corrugated iron roofs; and a large dispensary and medical store.

At Kintampo a house containing quarters for two officers, new quarters for the Medical Officer, and a dispensary were commenced and completed.

At Gambaga a good sized court house and quarters for two officers were completed, and a new gaol was commenced.

At all stations the existing Government buildings were put in a thorough state of repair.

Harvest and Food Supply.

25. The harvest throughout the Protectorate has been plentiful, and more land put under cultivation than in previous years. In consequence an ample supply of food-stuffs, such

as maize, guinea-corn, millet, yams, ground-nuts, rice, and beans, &c., were to be had in the markets nearly the whole year, except at Yeji, where some difficulty was experienced in obtaining sufficient supplies to meet local requirements, owing to the sudden increase in the native population brought about by the transfer of the headquarters of the Gonja District, and to the number of carriers constantly arriving with Government stores from Kumasi. But it is hoped that this shortage will be met by an increase in the amount of land put under cultivation this year.

There was also a sufficient supply of beef, mutton, and poultry exposed for sale in most of the markets to satisfy all demands.

Products and Resources.

26. Cotton is the most important product in these Territories from a commercial point of view. It is grown in most parts of the Protectorate—especially in Dagomba where every town and village has its cotton fields—in sufficient quantities to meet local demands, which are increasing, owing to the natives becoming more civilized. At present, however, it is only sold in small quantities to small buyers, usually women who spin it in a very primitive fashion, and then dispose of the yarn to owners of native looms.

But if there was a demand for it in large quantities I have no doubt that the natives would rise to the occasion and meet it, as they are always very ready to adapt themselves to any new means of making money which gives a quick return.

In order to encourage chiefs and other important natives to cultivate this valuable product in large quantities, for which the soil and climate appear eminently suitable, especially in the rich low-lying park land, near the Volta, in Dagomba and southern parts of the Gonja District, it would be necessary (i.) to establish markets for it, say at Daboya, Yeji or Salaga; (ii.) to inform the chiefs that no matter how much cotton they grew it would be purchased; and (iii.) to state the minimum price at which it would be bought.

At first, owing to the crude methods of preparation at present in use, the buyers might be at a loss; but I think the venture would soon prove a financial success, as the natives would quickly learn how to select and plant the seed in the most suitable ground, and how to gather and prepare the cotton properly for the markets.

Transport could be obtained to the coast at reasonable rates, from Daboya and Yeji, in the large cargo canoes which now return practically empty after disposing of their cargoes of salt at these towns.

27. The only vegetable products at present exported from this Protectorate in appreciable quantities are dawa-dawa and

shea-butter, both of which realise good prices in Ashanti and on the coast. The former is used by natives as flavouring in soup, and the latter largely in cooking, and as an illuminant; it also forms the base of various native ointments.

Large quantities of maize, guinea-corn, millet, yams, ground-nuts, rice, and beans are raised, and tobacco is also grown, but only for local consumption.

A small quantity of ivory is exported annually, which is obtained chiefly from Grunshi and Daboya.

Gold exists in the country in the vicinity of Wa, Bole, and Banda, but so far no mining operations have taken place, except for prospecting purposes.

HORTICULTURE.

28. The results obtained in the Government gardens at all stations were very good, except at Yeji, where the garden had only been in existence a few months. The garden at Gambaga was exceptionally successful, owing to the keen interest taken in its development by Doctor W. M. Graham, the acting Senior Medical Officer.

I attach a very interesting and valuable report by him on this subject, with an appendix, giving a short account of the geological formation and meteorological conditions prevailing at Gambaga, *vide* Appendix IV.

HEALTH.

29. The general health of the Europeans serving in the Northern Territories during the past year was not quite so good as that of 1903, but better than that of 1902.

The following table shows the comparative health of each station during the year:—

1904.	Gambaga.			Kintampo.			Salaga.			Yeji.			Wa.			All Districts.	
Month.	Average strength.	Sick.	Invalided.	Average strength.	Sick.	Invalided.	Average strength.	Sick.	Invalided.	Average strength.	Sick.	Invalided.	Average strength.	Sick.	Invalided.	Totals: strength.	Totals: Average sick.
January ..	12·	2				0	3·	1	0	1·	0	0	7	2	0	27·	5
February ..	12·7	1		5·	0	0	3·	2	0	1·	0	0	4	0	0	25·7	3
March ..	11·4	1	0	8	5	0	3·	3	0	2·	0	0	4·	0	0	28·4	8
April ..	11·6	1	0	7·	1	0	3·	0	0	1·	0	0	4·	0	0	26·6	2
May ..	10·2	0	0	6·	0	0	2·	1	0	2·	0	0	3·	0	0	23·2	1
June	10·4	2	0	4·	0	0	2·	0	0	2·	1	0	3·	2	0	21·4	5
July	9·4	0	0	4·	0	0	1·	0	0	2·	2	0	3·	1	0	19·4	3
August ..	9·3	3	0	4·	0	0	1·	0	0	2·	1	0	3·	2	0	19·3	6
September ..	9·2	1	0	4·	1	0	1·	1	0	2·	1	0	4·	2	0	20·2	6
October ..	9·3	4	0	4·	0	0	1·	0	0	2·	2	*1	6·	2	0	22·3	11
November ..	9·5	2	0	4·	0	0	1·	0	0	2·	2	0	6·	1	0	22·5	5
December ..	8·1	5	*1	6·	0	0	1·	0	0	2·	2	0	4·	2	0	21·1	9
	123·1	22	1	60		0	22·	8	0	21·	11	1	51·	14	0	277·1	64

Deaths—Nil. * For Blackwater Fever.

From the above table it will be seen that Yeji and Salaga were the most unhealthy stations. This may be attributed to the fact that these stations have only been occupied for a comparatively short time; and it is a well established fact in West Africa that newly-built stations are not as a rule so healthy as those which have been occupied for some years. And in the case of Yeji it is also situated close to the River Volta.

With regard to the two officers invalided for blackwater fever, one arrived in the Protectorate in poor health, and the other was invalided for the same cause during his previous tour.

The health of the native officials, soldiers, and Government carriers is reported good.

The sanitary condition of all towns in which Europeans reside is very carefully attended to by the Medical Officers in charge, and, as far as I have been able to judge, with satisfactory results.

For further information on the subject, *vide* the Acting Senior Medical Officer's report already submitted, which gives all the necessary details.

Troops.

30. The troops stationed in the Protectorate consist of one Battery of Artillery and the 2nd Battalion Gold Coast Regiment. A separate report will be submitted on this subject; but I may mention that the behaviour of the troops throughout the year has been very good, and that very few cases of serious crime occurred.

Recruiting.

31. There were 141 recruits enlisted in the Northern Territories during the past year, of which 54 were transferred to the 1st Battalion at Kumasi. A large number of recruits could have been obtained only they were not required, as recruiting for the 1st Battalion had been stopped in April, owing to that battalion being up to its establishment.

The subjoined table shows the various tribes from which the recruits were enlisted:—

Hausas.	Zaberimahs.	Grumahs.	Grunshis.	Kanjargas.	Dagombas.	Moshis.	Fulanis.	Dagartalis.	Fra-fras.	Wongaras.	Kipalsis.	Kotokolis.	Chakosis.	Mamprusis.	TOTAL.
7	18	5	25	5	4	34	1	18	8	8	1	3	1	3	141

Maps and Itineraries.

32. During the year a number of sketches were made of portions of the Gonja, Black and White Volta Districts, also a number of itineraries of roads traversed by officers. These sketches and itineraries have already been submitted.

Legislation.

33. During the year three Ordinances were passed, viz:—

i. An Ordinance to regulate the law relating to the sentence of flogging and whipping in the Northern Territories.

ii. An Ordinance to amend the Northern Territories administration Ordinance, 1902.

This Ordinance empowers the Chief Commissioner to grant licences on special request and under specified conditions for the importation of any firearms, ammunition, or gun-powder, lead in bars or sheets.

iii. An Ordinance entitled "The Mineral Rights of Option Ordinance, 1904."

This Ordinance clearly defines the procedure to be followed by persons desirous of prospecting in the Northern Territories, and the rules regulating the grant of Rights of Option, Leases, &c.

Amendments were made to the existing Regulations for the preservation of wild animals.

R. A. Irvine, Major,
Acting Chief Commissioner,
Northern Territories.

Gambaga,
25th March, 1905.

APPEN

GENERAL

RETURN showing AMOUNT of REVENUE realised in

Quarter ending.	District.	Caravan Taxes.	Rights of Option Fees.	Slaughtering Fees.	Court Fees and Fines.	Sale of Trade Goods.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
31st March, 1904 ..	White Volta	651 2 0	—	33 7 0	37 4 6	135 2 10
30th June, 1904	„	376 17 0	—	33 8 6	26 3 6	—
30th September, 1904 ..	„	171 6 0	—	36 7 6	28 9 0	—
31st December, 1904 ..	„	535 8 0	—	34 5 0	57 15 3	31 8 2
		1,734 13 0	—	137 8 0	147 12 3	166 11 0
31st March, 1904 ..	Black Volta	924 6 3	100 0 0	15 12 6	17 15 6	—
30th June, 1904	„	292 6 6	—	14 16 0	13 18 6	—
30th September, 1904 ..	„	272 3 6	—	11 9 0	47 3 6	—
31st December, 1904 ..	„	585 17 9	—	11 13 0	8 13 6	—
		2,054 14 0	100 0 0	53 10 6	87 11 0	—
31st March, 1904 ..	Kintampo..	1,544 10 6	—	28 8 6	12 19 6	—
30th June, 1904	„ ..	774 0 0	—	25 10 6	38 6 6	—
30th September, 1904 ..	„ ..	329 14 9	—	19 0 0	9 18 6	—
31st December, 1904 ..	„ ..	488 18 6	—	24 4 6	7 17 0	—
		3,137 3 9	—	97 3 6	69 1 6	—
31st March, 1904 ..	Gonja ..	1,102 7 6	—	27 7 6	20 12 0	—
30th June, 1904	„ ..	715 7 3	—	32 1 0	13 11 0	—
30th September, 1904 ..	„ ..	482 2 3	—	21 7 0	17 17 6	—
31st December, 1904 ..	„ ..	858 2 0	—	30 15 6	12 17 6	—
		3,157 19 0	—	111 11 0	64 18 0	—
Grand Total ..	.. ..	10,084 9 9	100 0 0	399 13 0	369 2 9	166 11 0

GAMBAGA,

25*th March*, 1905.

DIX I.

REVENUE.

the NORTHERN TERRITORIES during the YEAR 1904.

Sale of Live Stock	Sale of Rations.	Stall-holders' Fees.	Sale of Stamps, &c.	Ferry Dues.	Shooting Licence.	Trans-port of Private Loads.	Miscel-laneous.	Grand Total.
£ s. d.	£ s. d	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
152 1 6	91 4 3	10 4 0	—	—	1 10 0	—	—	1,111 16 1
110 18 0	98 8 9	9 8 0	6 18 9	—	—	—	—	662 2 6
20 8 0	66 5 7	10 14 0	8 13 6	13 4 3	1 10 0	—	—	354 17 10
28 14 0	75 13 9	15 1 0	8 1 0	8 6 9	1 0 0	22 13 6	0 2 6	818 8 11
312 1 6	331 12 4	45 7 0	23 13 3	21 11 0	4 0 0	22 13 6	0 2 6	2,947 5 4
76 8 9	19 9 8	3 8 0	0 13 5	—	—	—	—	1,157 14 1
37 13 9	17 2 4	2 13 0	0 17 3	—	—	—	—	379 7 4
1 1 0	22 0 3	2 11 0	0 16 4	3 19 0	—	—	—	361 3 7
3 8 0	32 11 2	2 11 0	0 10 0	—	—	—	—	625 4 5
118 11 6	91 3 5	11 3 0	2 17 0	3 19 0	—	—	—	2,523 9 5
—	41 8 5	4 5 0	9 10 8	—	5 0 0	—	—	1,646 2 7
—	31 6 4	6 6 0	12 9 1	—	0 10 0	—	9 0 0	897 8 5
—	35 17 2	3 16 0	17 15 7	—	—	—	0 8 6	416 10 6
—	59 3 9	6 6 0	8 8 10	—	—	—	—	594 18 7
—	167 15 8	20 13 0	48 4 2	—	5 10 0	—	9 8 6	3,555 0 1
2 0 0	30 16 0	6 16 6	0 15 2	—	—	—	—	1,190 14 8
9 0 0	32 16 6	3 19 0	0 8 6	—	—	—	—	807 3 3
—	30 18 9	6 4 9	—	—	0 10 0	—	—	559 0 3
—	33 19 10	5 4 0	0 10 6	—	—	—	—	941 9 4
11 0 0	128 11 1	22 4 3	1 14 2	—	0 10 0	—	—	3,498 7 6
411 13 0	719 2 6	99 7 3	76 8 7	25 10 0	10 0 0	22 13 6	9 11 0	12,524 2 4

R. A. IRVINE, Major.

Acting Chief Commissioner,

Northern Territories.

APPEN

RETURN of ANIMALS and LOADS on which TAXES were col-

Quarter ending	District	Horses.	Cattle.	Calves.	Donkeys.	Sheep.	Lambs.	Loads. Kola-nuts.	Donkeys carrying Kola.	Salt.	Cloth.
1904.	White										
31st March ..	Volta	73	1,665	—	1,901	7,396	—	—	—	3	78
30th June ..	„	67	1,143	—	832	3,936	—	—	—	—	76
30th September	„	6	800	—	34	1,544	—	—	—	—	34
31st December	„	49	2,171	—	969	3,908	—	—	—	1	28
		195	5,779	—	3,736	16,784	—	—	—	4	216
1904.	Black										
31st March ..	Volta	28	1,848	6	1,929	12,875	15	19	3	70	96
30th June ..	„	6	767	20	191	4,134	60	15	—	50	37
30th September	„	12	820	2	31	3,207	14	36½	4	110	27
31st December	„	11	1,478	—	768	7,470	11	4½	—	63	73
		57	4,913	28	2,919	27,686	100	75	7	293	233
1904.	Kin-										
31st March ..	tampo	4	715	—	143	5,089	—	3,975	2,092½	67	320½
30th June ..	„	2	267	5	60	2,608	4	1,961½	952½	129½	459
30th September	„	1	86	—	1	953	1	1,372	39	12?	322½
31st December	„	2	410	2	45	1,825	2	1,588½	218½	114½	278
		9	1,478	7	249	10,475	7	8,897	3,302½	433	1,380
1904.											
31st March ..	Gonja	51	1,198	5	1,152	8,402	8	474	—	2,658	302
30th June ..	„	19	832	2	523	6,407	15	94	—	2,709½	161½
30th September	„	4	787	—	45	2,676	1	16	—	2,211	120½
31st December	„	12	1,159	1	442	5,387	2	106½	—	2,728	277½
		86	3,976	8	2,162	22,872	26	690½	—	10,306½	861½
Grand Total	1904..	347	16 146	43	9,066	77,817	133	9,662½	3,309½	11,036½	2,690½
„	1903..	346	12,356	39	8,189	67,961	371	17,555	—	7,863½	2,599½
Increase or Decrease	1904	1	3,790	4	877	9,856	—	—	3,309½	3,173	91
		—	—	—	—	—	238	7,892½	—	—	—

GAMBAGA,

25th March, 1905.

DIX II.

—

lected in the NORTHERN TERRITORIES during the YEAR 1904.

Loads.														Amount.
Beads.	Cowries.	Tobacco.	Mats.	Leather.	Brass Rods.	Onions.	Ivory.	Native Hoes.	Donkeys carrying Miscellaneous Loads.	Dawadawa.	Shea-Butter.	Horses carrying Loads.	Miscellaneous.	£ s. d
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	651 2 0
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	376 17 0
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	171 6 0
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	535 8 0
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,734 13 0
5	12	12	2	—	—	11	2	—	296	345	32	—	2	924 6 3
—	5	3	—	—	—	3	—	1	73	227	10	—	—	292 6 6
1	2	1	1	—	—	3	2	9	20	375	4	—	4	272 3 6
—	8	23	—	—	3	3	—	4	60	448	11	—	—	565 17 9
6	27	39	3	—	3	20	4	14	449	1,395	57	—	6	2,054 14 0
44	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	18½	58	99	7	41½	1,544 10 6
56	6	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	23	20½	8	59½	774 0 0
73	4	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	58	66½	1	79	329 14 9
86	—	7½	—	—	28½	—	—	—	3	58	91½	—	58	488 18 6
259	10	45½	—	—	28½	—	—	—	32½	197	277½	16	238	3,137 3 9
7	—	12½	100½	2½	76½	—	—	4	—	259	947	—	220	1,102 7 6
—	—	½	29	4	46	—	3	2	—	98½	154½	—	124	715 7 3
—	—	3	26	28	43	—	1	—	2	93	277	—	39	482 2 3
4	—	6	16	20	55	—	—	—	19	235	902	—	94½	858 2 0
11	—	22	171½	54½	220½	—	4	6	21	685½	2,280½	—	477½	3,157 19 0
276	37	106½	174½	54½	252	20	8	20	502½	2,277½	2,615	16	721½	10,084 9 9
298½	96½	84	84	26	47½	53	10	65	573	2,027½	2,614½	—	989	8,902 18 3
—	—	22½	90½	28½	204½	—	—	—	—	250	½	16	—	1,181 11 6
22½	59½	—	—	—	—	33	2	45	70½	—	—	—	267½	—

R. A. IRVINE, Major,

Acting Chief Commissioner,

NORTHERN TERRITORIES.

APPENDIX III.

Comparative Return of Revenue received in the Northern Territories, Gold Coast, 1903 and 1904.

Source of Revenue.	1903.	1904.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Caravan Taxes	8,902 18 3	10,084 9 9	1,181 11 6	—
Prospecting Licence Fees	—	100 0 0	100 0 0	—
Slaughter Taxes	367 16 6	399 13 0	31 16 6	—
Court Fines and Fees	401 3 11	369 2 9	—	32 1 2
Sale of Trade Goods	889 17 8	166 11 0	—	723 6 8
Sale of Live Stock	549 16 0	441 13 0	—	108 3 0
Sale of Rations	606 9 3	719 2 6	112 13 3	—
Stall-holders' Fees	73 3 6	99 7 3	26 3 9	—
Sale of Stamps, &c.	106 17 5	76 8 7	—	30 8 10
Ferry Dues	37 13 3	25 10 0	—	12 3 3
From Officers employing Carriers as Servants.	3 0 0	—	—	3 0 0
Shooting Licences	25 0 0	10 0 0	—	15 0 0
Transport of Private Loads ..	—	22 13 6	22 13 6	—
Miscellaneous	—	9 11 0	9 11 0	—
Totals	11,963 15 9	12,524 2 4	1,484 9 6	924 2 11

	£ s. d.
Total Revenue 1904..	12,524 2 4
" " 1903..	11,963 15 9
Total Increase	560 6 7

R. A. Irvine, Major,

Acting Chief Commissioner,

Northern Territories.

Gambaga,

25*th March*, 1905.

APPENDIX IV.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE GARDEN AT GAMBAGA FOR THE YEAR 1904.

The Government garden at Gambaga is situated, near the native water supply, on low-lying ground. It is close to two wells the waters of which unite and form a small stream which flows through the garden for ten months of the year. The surface of the ground slopes very rapidly down to the stream. Thus the upper portion is made suitable for cultivation during the rains and the lower portion bordering the stream retains enough moisture to make growth possible during the rainless months of the year. When I took charge of the garden this lower portion was a flooded swampy jungle. I had the land cleared, the fence extended to enclose it, and a channel cut for the stream.

It now forms an ideal summer garden, affording as it does a soil largely alluvial associated with both water and shade under natural conditions.

Seed.—The supply of vegetable seeds received from Messrs. Sutton was expended in June and since then I have had to use seed raised from locally-grown plants.

Locally-raised seed appears to retain its vitality longer, when exposed to the air, than does imported seed, but the plants grown from it are usually inferior in size and in succulence. I have little doubt however that by growth in highly manured soil, followed by careful selection of the best plants, very good seed could be produced here, for dwarf beans and lettuce show no deterioration when grown with care.

Cultivation.—It has been usual here to discontinue cultivation during the four driest months of the year, but given sufficient water and a suitable soil, low-lying, shaded, and protected from the wind, most European vegetables can be successfully grown all the year round.

In selecting a site for a summer garden in the Northern Territories such configuration of surface as will ensure a damp subsoil should be sought. A suitable spot can readily be recognized by turning over the soil to the depth of from four to six inches in January or in February. If at this depth the soil be dust dry, the site is unsuitable.

Water is the chief necessary; with it most seeds will grow in even poor soil; without it all seeds will fail in rich soil.

A summer garden should be shaded by trees. Such trees must be tall, and all the branches near the ground should be removed to a height of 10 or 12 feet.

Vegetable Culture.

The following list contains the names of the vegetables tried in the local garden:—

1. Dwarf beans.
2. Runner beans.
3. Peas.
4. Tomatoes.
5. Cucumbers.
6. Vegetable marrow.
7. Melons.
8. Cabbage.
9. Kohl rabi.
10. Lettuce (cabbage and cos).
11. Endive, curled.
12. Egg plant.
13. Carrots.
14. White turnips.
15. Radish (olive).
16. Onions.
17. Spinach.
18. Mustard.
19. Cress.
20. Sage.
21. Thyme.
22. Parsley.

Cultural results:

1. *Dwarf beans* are easily grown in good damp soil, afford a good crop, and produce fertile seed. The crop is greatly increased by a dressing of manure.

2. *Runner beans* are easily grown in good soil, afford a fair crop, and produce fertile seed.

3. *Peas* germinate, but the plants are dwarfed, bear only a few abortive flowers, and produce no seed. I have failed both here and at Kintampo to raise seed.

4. *Tomatoes* are easily grown and in good soil they yield a large crop of fruit which is of good flavour and shape. The size of the fruit seems to depend chiefly on the supply of water, as in dry situations the fruit grown is small. During the rains the fruit is liable to be attacked by parasites and during the dry season the plants require partial shade.

Fertile seed is produced, but fruit raised from locally saved seed is markedly inferior in size and flavour to that raised from imported seed.

5. *Cucumbers* require a rich, manured, damp soil. Their growth is capricious. They grow luxuriantly in one place, and fail in another under apparently similar conditions.

The soil of *old* rubbish heaps enriched with manure has been found most suitable for their culture, but such soil must be kept damp in the dry season. The plants should be trained over a bamboo trellis during the wet season, and over the ground in the dry season.

Fertile seed is produced.

6. *Vegetable marrow.*—The cultural requirements are similar to those for cucumbers but the fruit is more readily attacked by fly.

This fly is somewhat larger than a housefly, of a dark colour, with the abdominal somites banded alternately black and yellow.

It is most prevalent during the rains. It damages the fruit thus: the female settles on the fruit, chooses a suitable spot, drives her ovipositor through the rind, and lays her eggs in the interior of the young fruit. From these eggs white larvæ develop, and as they grow the flesh of the fruit liquefies. Lastly the rind bursts, the larvæ escape, distribute themselves over the ground by short leaps, and bury themselves in the earth. Here they undergo their metamorphosis, and emerge in about a fortnight mature insects. Seed saved from fruit thus attacked will not germinate. The only protective method I have found effective has been to enclose the fruit while still young in oiled paper bags.

The universal prevalence of this fly may I think be inferred from the fact that all the indigenous members of this family of plants bear fruit protected by a rind of almost woody hardness.

Imported vegetable marrow seeds rapidly become useless if exposed to air, and frequently fail to germinate after a fortnight's exposure.

7. *Melon.*—The cultural requirements are similar to those of cucumbers. The fruit is early and severely attacked by the fly, and must be effectively protected while quite young. The plants produce fertile seed.

8. *Cabbage* requires a damp, rich soil, which should be manured to get the best results. The seedlings should be transplanted when four inches high, and require shade.

If grown in dry soil the plants will not "head," tough green leaves only being produced instead. Under suitable conditions large, hard, white heads of good flavour can be grown. I have not seen any plants produce seed.

9. *Kohl rabi.*—The cultural requirements are those of cabbage, but kohl rabi can be grown in a somewhat poorer, drier soil than cabbage. I have not seen seed produced.

10*a*. *Lettuce* (*cabbage*) requires rich, damp soil and plenty of shade. If grown rapidly in damp soil succulent heads of fair flavour can be produced. This vegetable is improved by being bleached, which can be done by tying the outside leaves over the inner a week before cutting the head for use. Fertile seed is readily produced.

10*b*. *Lettuce* (*cos*).—This variety is inferior to cabbage lettuce for local culture. The heads are less succulent and of poorer flavour and the plants run to seed earlier. Fertile seed is produced readily.

11. *Endive*.—The cultural requirements are similar to those of lettuce, but these plants are somewhat more easily grown. If rapidly grown in damp, shaded soil, and well bleached, the heads are succulent and of fair flavour. Fertile seed is readily produced.

12. *Egg plant* does well in fairly dry soil, without much shade, and produces large handsome fruit and fertile seed. There are several indigenous varieties largely grown by the natives. Plants from imported seed are liable to be attacked by parasites during the rainy season.

13. *Carrots* require rich, deep soil. In such soil they grow readily, require little attention, and produce a vegetable of good flavour and appearance. They will keep well for months in the dry season if left undisturbed in shaded ground. I have not seen seed produced.

14. *White turnips* are somewhat capricious, and require rich, damp soil. Unless grown very rapidly in damp soil they become tough and stringy, and acquire a pungent flavour. I have not seen seed produced.

15. *Radish* (*olive*) grows very readily, but, to get good results, rapid growth induced by rich, damp soil is necessary, otherwise the tubers are tough and of pungent flavour.

16. *Onions*.—Imported seed germinates and produces plants two or three inches high. Subsequently the plants disappear one by one. I have not been able to discover the cause of their disappearance. Though imported seeds fail, a good crop can be got by planting out the small indigenous onion sold by the natives. The richer the soil the better the onion produced, and manure is specially useful for this crop.

17. *Spinach*.—Imported seed germinates readily, but the plants rapidly go to seed and are not worth the trouble of culture, as good native spinach can be purchased locally.

18. *Mustard* is readily grown on any poor, damp soil. I have not seen seed produced.

19. *Cress* grows readily on any damp soil, provided the imported seed be fresh. I have not seen seed produced.

20. *Sage* grows readily from fresh seed. During the dry season it requires water and shade.

21. *Thyme.*—The cultural requirements are similar to those of sage, but the plants are more delicate and capricious in growth and readily die. I have not seen seed produced.

22. *Parsley.*—Fresh seed germinates readily, but the plants increase in size slowly, unless grown in damp soil. In suitable soil they grow vigorously and produce leaves of good flavour. I have not seen seed produced.

The whole of the foregoing matter applies with equal force to the cultivation of vegetables at Kintampo, with this difference only, that the local conditions of climate at Kintampo are more favourable than those at Gambaga. Though I cannot speak from personal experience of the requirements at other stations, I see no reason to doubt that at both Salaga and Wa similar methods of cultivation would be followed by results similar to those obtained at Gambaga this year.

Fruit Culture.

When early in 1898 Gambaga became the headquarters of the Northern Territories, both the town and the surrounding country were absolutely without fruit trees. The banana, the plantain, and the papaw, elsewhere so universally cultivated, were absent.

As the greater part of the food eaten by the resident Europeans was necessarily tinned food, and as health cannot be maintained upon this alone, a garden for the growth of vegetables and fruit was established during the first rainy season, and its cultivation has since been continued by successive Chief Commissioners. It is as necessary to-day as it was in 1898, for it is still impossible to buy fruit or vegetables in the local market.

The following list gives the names of the fruits cultivated here:—

(*A*) *Trees.*

1. Orange.
2. Citron.
3. Lime
4. Guava.
5. Mango.
6. Soursop.

(*B*) *Plants.*

1. Banana.
2. Pine-apple.
3. Papaw.

Cultural Results.

1. *Oranges.*—The trees were grown from seed sent from the Botanic Garden at Aburi. The seed was planted here in April, 1903, and germinated freely. At present there is a very large number of young trees planted out about the station. They resist the drought well.

2. *Citron.*—In 1898 Colonel Northcott had a few seeds planted. Of the citron plants then raised only one remains. It began to bear fruit in its fifth year, and this year produced a fair crop. In April, 1903, seed received from Aburi was planted and germinated freely, and at present a very large number of young trees have been planted out about the station.

3. *Lime.*—One tree raised from seed in 1898 survives. It began to bear fruit in its fifth year, and this year produced a good crop.

Subsequently seed was received from Aburi in April, 1903, which germinated freely, and this year some hundreds of young trees have been planted out. The leaves are very liable to be destroyed by caterpillars, and this applies in a minor degree to orange and citron.

4. *Guava* seed received from Aburi was planted in April, 1903, and germinated freely, and hundreds of young trees were this year planted out along the sides of the roads in the vicinity of the town. These trees do not bear drought well, and should be transplanted early in the rainy season.

5. *Mango.*—There are only three or four trees here which were received as plants from Aburi in 1901. They have grown very slowly, probably because they were planted in poor, dry soil.

In May, 1899, at Kintampo I planted four mango seeds I had brought from the coast. They germinated freely. In 1901 I returned to Kintampo, and early in the wet season I transplanted two of the seedlings to prepared ground. This year, 1904, when passing through Kintampo, I found three large trees still there, two of which (the transplanted trees) were in fruit. It is therefore evidently unnecessary to send live plants on the long journey to Gambaga, where they could readily be raised from seed.

6. *Soursop.*—There are six small trees here at present all of which were received in 1901 as living plants from Aburi. They look healthy, but grow slowly, being planted in poor, dry soil.

1. *Banana.*—In August, 1903, a number of banana roots were received here from Aburi, and were planted out in the garden.

Unfortunately they arrived late in the year, were planted in a bad position on a slope where the soil was dry and poor,

and had one month's rain only after planting. They have not done well. Those planted at the bottom of the slope have done best, and two of these plants are in fruit. The others are still small, most of them look unhealthy, and none show signs of fruit bearing.

The fruit on the two plants will not be ripe till March, 1905. It will be seen therefore that it requires 1½ years here from the time of planting to produce ripe fruit, and this period is at least six months longer than that required on the coast or in Ashanti to produce the same results.

There are 29 plants here, and this number could under favourable conditions be doubled, or trebled, yearly. As soon as practicable the plants must be moved to low-lying rich ground, where I have no doubt but that they will do well.

This plant possesses a double importance, as its fruit is equally acceptable to European and to native.

2. *Pine-apple.*—In August, 1903, a number of small plants was received from Aburi. These plants in the wild state grow in damp ground under trees Here they were planted in poor, dry soil in the open. They have naturally done very badly. Four or five have died, and the survivors remain small and unhealthy, and show no signs of bearing fruit. They must be removed at once to a more favourable position.

3. *Papaw.*—The seed received from Aburi failed to germinate here. Subsequently a few plants were raised by a native from seed brought I understand from Kintampo. From seed derived from this source a large number of plants has been raised in the Government garden. These plants grow very slowly here and require 1½ years or more to produce fruit. This period is more than double that required on the coast or in Ashanti to produce similar results.

Flower Culture.

The following varieties of European flowers have been tried here this year:—

1. Zinnia elegans.
2. African marigold.
3. French marigold.
4. Sunflowers.
5. Mignonette.
6. Convolvulus major.
7. Sweet pea.
8. Nasturtium.

1. *Zinnia elegans* will grow in any damp soil, and rapidly distributes itself over adjacent ground in damp places. The richer the soil the finer the blooms produced. Fertile seed that keeps well is produced readily.

2. *African marigold* grows readily in damp soil and produces good seed that keeps well.

3. *French marigold* is not so vigorous in growth but forms a good contrast to the African variety and produces fertile seed that keeps well.

4. *Sunflowers.*—Both the large and small varieties grow vigorously in damp soil. In rich soil enormous inflorescences can be grown. The oily seeds make excellent food for poultry. Fertile seed is readily produced by both varieties.

5. *Mignonette.*—The seeds germinate readily, but the inflorescences produced have a greatly diminished fragrance, and the plants are not vigorous. Good seed is produced.

6. *Convolvulus.*—The seed germinates readily, but requires good damp soil to produce flowers of fine colour. This is an excellent plant with which to cover an ugly fence, as it blooms a long time, producing fresh flowers daily.

7. *Sweet pea.*—The seeds germinate with great difficulty, the plants grow two or three inches high, and then die off one by one. I have not succeeded in producing blooms here.

All these flowers were raised in the hospital garden, from seed I brought from Dublin, by my dispenser Mr. W. B. Hagan.

During the wet months handsome beds of these flowers were maintained in the hospital grounds, and a large quantity of seed was saved for use next year.

W. M. GRAHAM,
Acting Senior Medical Officer,
Northern Territories.

Gambaga,
20th January, 1905.

APPENDIX.

In order that comparison may be possible between Gambaga and other stations I have added to my report a short account of the geological formations and of the meteorological conditions prevailing here.

Geological Formation at Gambaga.

The dominant formation is red sandstone which is superposed on white sandstone. Laterite is also found but in lesser quantity. The soil is most largely composed of quartz sand derived from disintegrated quartzose red sandstone, mixed with water-worn gravel, derived from disintegrated laterite, and in some cases from conglomerate. The organic matter lies in a thin layer on the surface. In many places the soil is very shallow with rock showing through it, and in some situations large tracts of bare rock prevail. Everywhere the effects of former volcanic activity are apparent, and in places lava, either in blocks or small pieces, lies strewn over the surface of the ground.

In the immediate vicinity of Gambaga the streams are few and of small size, and flow for the most part from west to east. In the dry season their beds are rocky, dry trenches, containing occasional waterholes. The surface of the surrounding country is very hilly.

Thus everything favours rapid drainage. The water runs away quickly, or percolates the sandy soil to form underground streams on the surface of the underlying rock, and the surface of the soil becomes dry in a few hours after the heaviest rain.

Springs and Wells.

There are no true springs of water here. The local wells are formed where a natural, or an artificial, cutting has laid bare the junction between the underlying rock and the superposed soil. The water which such wells afford is surface water which, having percolated through the ground to the impermeable rock, at a higher level, has run along the rock-floor to its issue at the well.

Such wells are severely affected by a few months of drought, as well as by a scanty rainfall, and at Gambaga the water in all wells becomes low early in March of each year.

METEOROLOGY.

The meteorological conditions are sufficiently peculiar to be worth tabulating and I have arranged the pertinent statistics in the form of three tables given below:—

Table I.—Rainfall for 1904.

Month.	Inches.	Month.	Inches.	Total.
January ...	0·00	July ...	10·01	Total Rainfall at Gambaga for 1904: 40·06 inches.
February ...	0·00	August ...	7·25	
March ...	0·16	September ...	7·97	
April	1·74	October ...	3·09	
May	6·65	November ...	0·00	
June	3·19	December ...	0·00	

Table II.—Relative Humidity (Averages) 1904.

Month.	Ratio.	Month.	Ratio.	Remarks.
January ...	34·54	July... ...	83·67	Complete saturation of air is here represented as 100.
February ...	30·48	August ...	79·87	
March ...	37·70	September ...	79·26	
April ...	46·60	October ...	77·64	
May	57·80	November ...	56·26	
June	71·00	December ...	41·00	

Table III.—Average Minimum Temperature and Dew Point, 1904.

Month.	Minimum Temperature.	Dew Point.	Month.	Minimum Temperature.	Dew Point.
January ...	69·74	50·23	July ...	69·90	70·24
February ...	70·41	48·65	August ...	71·38	70·36
March ...	75·67	58·30	September	70·02	70·80
April ...	73·48	59·08	October ...	71·29	71·88
May ...	72·82	64·26	November	71·66	68·63
June ...	69·86	66·66	December.	69·35	57·60

Summary.

From these tables it will be seen that:—

1. The rainfall amounted to 40·06 inches.

2. The rainfall occurred in seven months from April to October inclusive.

3. There were five rainless months.

4. The average relative humidity varied almost directly as the rainfall.

5. The average minimum temperature and the average dew point corresponded approximately during the rains only.

6. During the rainless months there was no dew.

These statistics therefore prove the supreme importance of a sufficient supply of water close at hand and of the choice of shaded and of low-lying ground if gardening is to be successful under the conditions of climate obtaining at Gambaga.

W. M. Graham,
Acting Senior Medical Officer,
Northern Territories.

Gambaga,
20th January, 1905.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
427	Lagos	1903
428	Bahamas	1903–1904
429	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1903
430	Mauritius	,,
431	Seychelles	,,
432	Barbados	1903–1904
433	Southern Nigeria	1903
434	Fiji	,,
435	Straits Settlements	,,
436	Grenada	,,
437	Northern Nigeria	,,
438	Jamaica	1903–1904
439	Malta	,,
440	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1902–1903 & 1903–1904
441	British Guiana	1903–1904
442	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
443	St. Lucia...	1903
444	Basutoland	1903–1904
445	Leeward Islands	,,
446	St. Vincent	,,
447	Bermuda...	1904
448	St. Helena	,,
449	Falkland Islands	,,
450	Weihaiwei	,,
451	Hong Kong	,,
452	Gambia	,,
453	Gibraltar...	,,
454	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
455	British Honduras	,,
456	Seychelles	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacou.
25	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague, 1903.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies... ...	Medical Reports.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone...	Rubber.
29	Ceylon	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Islands	Report by Mr. R. T. Simon.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
By DARLING & SON, Ltd., 34-40, Bacon Street, E.

1905.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 493.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES
OF THE
GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1905.

(For Report for 1904, *see* No. 457.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
August, 1906.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, Ltd., 34-40, Bacon Street, E.

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INDEX.

	PAGE
POLITICAL	6
STATE OF COUNTRY	6
ADMINISTRATION	7
CRIME...	8
TRADE	8
PRODUCTS AND RESOURCES	9
REVENUE	10
HEALTH	11
TROOPS	11
MAPS	11
LEGISLATION	12
MEDICAL REPORT	13

No. 493.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

(For Report for 1904 *see* No. 457.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House, Accra,

13th July, 1906.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship, herewith, the Annual Report on the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast for the year 1905 which has been compiled by Lieutenant-Colonel A. E. G. Watherston, C.M.G., the Chief Commissioner.

2. The cordial relations which have been established with the French and German officials charged with the administration of the territories adjoining the frontiers of the Protectorate should, in conjunction with the compietion of the demarkation of all international boundaries, prove important factors in facilitating and expediting the settlement of tribal and other disputes.

3. It is gratifying to learn that, in the opinion of the Chief Commissioner, who has during the past year visited all the outlying portions of the Protectorate, travelling in the Northern Territories is, with the exception of two small districts, as safe as in any civilised country. The policy of supporting and emphasising the position of the paramount native chiefs while, at the same time, making them realise their responsibilities, appears to me to be the only practicable system of administering this country, which has an area of 24,000 square miles, a population estimated by the Chief Commissioner at 2,500,000,

1125 Wt 23907 8/06 D & S 5 25657 A 2

and an available staff of some 18 British officers who are called upon to perform both civil and military duties.

4. The establishment of a sub-district and trading-station at Navarro, to which your Lordship's attention was invited by Sir John Rodger in his account of a tour through the Protectorate, has proved a most important factor in improving our relations with some of the wilder tribes which, hitherto, have been rather coerced than conciliated. The credit of initiating the experiment is entirely due to the Chief Commissioner, and the results already achieved indicate that further developments in the same direction are likely to be attended with success.

5. It is satisfactory to learn from the report that the business of traders from the Gold Coast and Hausa merchants has increased very considerably during the past year. The Chief Commissioner comments on the want of enterprise shown by the European firms on the Coast in failing to take advantage of the settled state of the country. I will take measures to bring his views to the notice of the local Chambers of Commerce.

6. The remarks made by the Chief Commissioner on the subject of the collection of the caravan tolls confirm the opinion recently expressed by the Chief Commissioner of Ashanti on the same subject. There is every indication that not only do the native traders not resent this tax, but look upon their receipt-tickets as passes which free them from the extortions of petty chiefs and serve in some sense as a guarantee of respectability.

7. The revenue of the Protectorate from all sources amounted to £13,414 18*s.* 2*d.*, and shows an increase of £851 10*s.* 8*d.* as compared with the last previous year. On the other hand, the amount of the Imperial grant-in-aid was only £13,759 6*s.* 6*d.*, as against £31,800 4*s.* 4*d.* in the year 1904. The military expenditure on the 2nd Battalion Gold Coast Regiment alone was £26,648 18*s.* 6*d.* in the year under review, and it is thus apparent that the Protectorate is a heavy drain on the resources of the Colony proper—a drain which, as His Majesty's Government has decided that the Imperial grant-in-aid shall be decreased to £10,000 in 1906, £5,000 in 1907, and shall cease in 1908, cannot fail to be seriously felt in the present and subsequent years. There is, I regret to say, no probability of any appreciable immediate increase in the revenue derived from the Northern Territories.

8. I desire to point out that the detailed returns, referred to in paragraph 33 of the Report and marked as Appendices I. and II., do not correspond accurately with the total figures given in Appendix III. The discrepancies are accounted for by the fact that the figures in the first mentioned tables are those extracted from the Treasury books kept in the Northern

Territories which, at the date of writing the report, had not been compared with the corrected and final accounts passed in the Colonial Treasury at Accra.

9. I shall be in a position to submit to your Lordship at an early date the proposals for the re-organisation of the administration of the Protectorate, indicated by the Chief Commissioner in paragraph 18 of the Report

In conclusion I beg to be permitted to express my appreciation of the admirable work done by Lieutenant-Colonel Watherston during the first year of his administration of these Territories.

I have, &c.,

H. BRYAN,

Acting Governor.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR THE YEAR 1905.

Political.

1. During the year under review our relations with the local representatives of France and Germany were of a cordial nature. Personal acquaintance has done much to remove all questions likely to cause friction, and every opportunity has been taken to arrange meetings between the officers of the Protectorate and the French officers administering their frontier districts.

State of Country.

2. With two exceptions, at the present moment travelling in the Northern Territories is believed to be as safe as in most civilised countries. The exceptions are the centre of the Lobi-Dagarti country and a tract of country known as the Nabrigo Hills, lying a day's journey to the north-west of Gambaga.

3. It is hoped that a recent tour made by the Chief Commissioner through the former country will bring about the desired change in our relations with these people.

4. In the latter case I regret to report that it is not fear of the white man so much as settled determination to have nothing to do with him. They loot caravans with impunity, continually fight amongst themselves, and are a constant source of terror to the surrounding friendly towns, whose markets they absolutely ruin.

5. It was anticipated that with the opening of a new administrative post at Navarro, these tribes would come in and make their submission, but not only have they not done so, but they have attacked and ill-treated many of their neighbours who have come in.

6. In passing through their country with any appreciable force, it is impossible to get in touch with them, as they completely forsake their compounds, and with their women, children, and cattle, hide themselves in the hills.

7. With the exception of these two districts the country is in a very peaceful state, and the paramount chiefs are making their authority more and more felt, supported, as they are, by the District Commissioners, who fully realise that it is only through them that they can expect to develop the country.

8. One good sign is that in a recent tour the Chief Commissioner found a growing desire to develop trade and form new trade routes and markets, and that the people fully realise that truculent and insubordinate districts were avoided by merchants, and that those countries that had consolidated themselves under a chief of good reputation and with the power of making himself obeyed were becoming centres of a rapidly increasing trade and prosperity.

9. The recent widespread movement of Mohammedanism has done much to help us to bring this state about, and though viewed with some alarm at first, enquiries and personal observations lead to the conclusion that it has done more to bring about order, decency, and a local cleanliness than years of our administration have effected.

Administration.

10. A new station was started at Navarro in October and though only opened a short time its effect on the surrounding country has far exceeded the expectations that were formed of its probable results.

11. It embraces a district that has since our occupation been erroneously known as the Fra-Fra country, lying between the Sissili River, the Red Volta, a portion of the White Volta from its junction with the Red Volta to its junction with the Sissili, and the French Boundary forms its northern limit.

12. This country had previously been visited by punitive expeditions which had done little or nothing to improve the relations with the native, the latter generally having, after a small show of fight, run away and remained absent till the return of the expeditionary force to Gambaga.

13. The inhabitants are mainly of the Grunshi tribe and, in the southern part, Kanjargas. Navarro was selected as being centrally situated and ruled by a chief who appeared to have power of command and common sense—an opinion which has been confirmed since our more intimate relations with him.

14. The result of the formation of this administrative centre has been the complete submission of all the towns in the district with the exception of the portion mentioned in paragraph 3 of this Report as lying amongst the Nabrigo hills, and the station was completely built by free labour in a little over a fortnight, towns that up to that time had refused all overtures from Gambaga sending in natives to help, and expressing themselves as being slighted in not having been asked to assist.

15. A large market, increasing every week, has grown up, and a large number of permanent Hausa traders have settled in the town.

16. Caravans met with on a recent tour in the south, who had come through this town, expressed themselves as extremely pleased with the formation of this district, as previously they had rarely come through without incurring big losses to their herds of cattle and very often the loss of one or two of their followers.

17. The Wa District embraces a great deal more country than one Commissioner can possibly look after. It includes, besides the Wala tribe, the whole of the Bole country, in which but little travelling has ever been done, the Lobi, the Dagarti, the mixed Lobi-Dagarti, and the Issala Grunshi.

18. Proposals are being drafted for a complete re-organisation of the administrative centres, which will, it is hoped, bring some of the thickly-populated regions into more constant touch with our administration, and enable help to be given to the growing desire for trade and their energy to be directed into agriculture and stock raising. This should have pecuniary results satisfactory to them and to the revenue of the Colony.

19. The population is abundant, and there is reason to think they are just beginning to consider and realise the dignity of labour.

Crime.

20. Crime has diminished, and the majority of cases dealt with are thefts of cattle and women, which often go back to incidents in the time of Samory and Barbatu, a time generally treated as beyond the statute of limitations.

Trade.

21. Coast traders and Hausa merchants have increased very considerably during the year, consequent on the more settled state of trade generally. The most notable feature in this respect is the apathy shown by European traders on the coast to avail themselves of this movement. Here are an enormous amount of natives who, one almost may say, up to a few months ago went about entirely innocent of clothing or cloths of any kind and have quite suddenly developed a desire to cover themselves, and yet in every market that has been visited the answer received is that the cloths for sale come from German Togoland, the proportion bought in Kumasi being of comparatively small quantity, and beads and other ornaments invariably French or German.

22. Money is growing greatly in favour, though cowries are still used in large numbers. A large amount of threepenny-pieces have been circulated during the year, and these are

found to be much more convenient for local use than the two-shilling-piece.

23. The French officers at Leo and Wagadugu have been accepting English silver money in payment of their caravan dues and maintenance tax, but it appears to be at their own risk, as they are continually sending over to ask for it to be changed into English gold.

Products and Resources.

24. Cotton is grown to a certain amount in the Dagomba country for local use, but there is none grown in the Lobi-Dagarti country, where there is a great demand for it at the present moment.

There is a great deal of cloth-making in these parts, but the cotton is all purchased from Moshi traders who get it from French territories.

It is proposed to issue cotton seed to the chiefs in the Lobi-Dagarti country, and the introduction of larger looms would, I feel sure, create an increased trade in cloth in these districts.

25. Dawa-Dawa and shea-butter are still exported in large quantities, chiefly in return for salt.

26. Maize, guinea-corn, millet, yams, ground-nuts, rice, beans, and tobacco are grown for local consumption only, and in some places indigo, used for dyes for native cloth.

The year under review is considered to have been the best harvest for ten years, and there was a complete absence of locusts.

27. Other vegetable products that might be introduced with success are sugar and rice, the latter being grown at present in very small quantities.

28. The country is eminently suited for cattle raising, and attempts are being made to increase the interest of the people in this business. The results are promising. Unfortunately the local cattle are said to be of inferior stamina to those bred in Moshi country, and the objection the caravan traders raise to buying them to take to Kumasi is that so many die on the road, compared to the stronger animals that come from the north.

29. The peaceful state of the country, which renders it no longer necessary for the natives to keep up large armed forces to preserve their own existence, should liberate a large number of young men, who at present lead an idle life for at least six months in the year. With the enormous population that exists in parts of this country I have great hopes of these young men forming in the near future a new source of labour for the mines at Tarkwa and Ashanti.

This would bring money into the country, which is badly needed, and the chiefs recently interviewed on this matter have taken much interest in the question, and expressed themselves as very desirous of sending their young men to work.

Revenue.

30. The revenue received from all sources during the year under review amounted to £13,414 18*s.* 2*d.*, being an increase of £851 10*s.* 8*d.* compared with the previous year.

31. This would have been greater, but for the new collecting stations which were opened in Ashanti during the latter part of the year which caused considerable falling off in the caravan tax at Kintampo and Yeji.

32. The majority of this sum, viz., £11,130 17*s.* 6*d.*, comes from caravan tax, which is most willingly paid, which sits extremely lightly on traders, and which there is little or no attempt to avoid.

The heavy toll they were called on to pay in the old days to every chief through whose country they passed, added to occasional loss of all stock by raiding parties, makes one wonder how trade ever flourished. Constant enquiries whilst on a recent tour elicited nothing but approval of this tax, and contentment at the present arrangement, and the increasing trade returns are the best answer to those who advocate its removal.

The French collect revenue from villages by a maintenance tax, but most of the people from whom it is collected, living away from any daily contact with the advantages of European rule, fail to distinguish between the present methods of removing their wealth (the tax has usually to be collected in cattle) and those of Samory and Barbatu, and force constantly has to be resorted to.

The caravan tax presents to all who pay it substantial advantages in that once in possession of the Government piece of paper, which is looked on by the majority of people with the respect generally accorded to fetish, they are immune from extortion or robbery on the road.

33. I append returns which show the amount collected in the different districts during each quarter of the year, and the number of animals and loads on which caravan taxes have been levied, with totals appended, giving the number taxed in 1904, and the increase in the year's revenue compared with 1904, *vide* Appendices I. I., and III.

34. With regard to the increase of £851 10*s.* 8*d.*, it will be seen that there has been a great increase in the number of kola loads purchased and a reduction in all the headings of live stock.

The falling off in the latter is, I think, due to the small price the buyers are paying for cattle in Kumasi, shea-butter and Dawa-Dawa taking their place (both of these latter show considerable increase), and also to the fact that there is more money in circulation now, and traders are beginning to appreciate its small bulk compared to the cowries that were formerly in use, and they take it with them to purchase kola.

35. Salt and kola form the main requirements of the large caravans from Kano, Sokoto, Timbuctoo, and other northern centres. It must be remembered that in transit through the Protectorate these caravans spend much money in food, and carry on trade between local centres, and anything done to diminish the supply of salt and kola would have a very damaging effect on the wealth of the Protectorate as a whole, quite apart from revenue returns.

Health.

37. The general health was not quite so good as in former years, possibly owing to the very heavy rainfall that took place, the increase being 15 inches in Gambaga.

I attach a Medical Report from the Senior Medical Officer from which it will be seen that Gambaga was the most unhealthy station during the year.

The general sanitary condition of the towns in the Protectorate is improving, the revival and spread of Mohammedanism having much to do with this.

The sanitary condition of all towns in which Europeans reside is very carefully attended to by the Medical Officers in charge.

Troops.

38. The Battery was disbanded in October for reasons of economy.

The behaviour of the troops in the 2nd Battalion of the Gold Coast Regiment has been good. A separate report has been submitted on this subject.

Maps.

39. The year under review will be notable for the issue of the first reliable maps of the Northern Territories. The accurate and more scientific surveys carried out in connection with the various English and French boundary maps have been used as a base, to which have been added the route sketches made by various officers in the course of travelling in their respective districts.

It is understood that this issue will have to suffice for the next three years, during which time every effort will be made to add to the information and correct and adjust the various routes, and it is hoped that an issue will be made then in three colours which will be able to be looked on as a final issue.

Legislation.

40. During the year two Ordinances were passed:—

(1) The Northern Territories Administration (Amendment) Ordinance, 1905.

(2) The River Volta Regulation (Northern Territories) Ordinance, 1905.

A. E. Watherston,

Lieutenant-Colonel,

Chief Commissioner,

Northern Territories.

Gambaga,

23rd May, 1906.

MEDICAL REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1905.

The Medical Report for the year 1905 was not quite so satisfactory as that of the previous year.

Seventy-five Europeans were placed on the sick list from all causes out of a population of 214.

The following table shows the comparative health of each station in the Northern Territories during 1905:—

Name of Station.	Strength.	Number placed on sick list.	Average Number of days on sick list.	Invalided.	Died.
Gambaga	92	21	11·71	2	—
Navarro	4	2	2·05	—	—
Yeji	28	17	4·76	1	—
Salaga	24	4	4·85	—	1
Kintampo... ...	32	18	4·83	—	1
Wa...	34	13	3·61	1	—
Total... ...	214	75	—	4	2

The following diseases were the cause of four European officials being invalided, viz.: 1 blackwater fever, 1 dysentery, 1 abscess of liver, 1 remittent fever. This latter officer returned to the Colony and completed his tour of service after a trip to Grand Canary.

Two officers died in 1905—one from blackwater fever and the other from abscess of liver. This latter officer was stationed at N'koranza (Ashanti) and came to Kintampo for medical treatment.

The following were the diseases from which officers suffered during the year:—

Remittent fever, 28; intermittent fever, 19; fall from horse, 1; dysentery, 4; diarrhœa, 6; blackwater fever, 3; scarlatina, 1; gastritis, 3; fistula in ano, 1; abscess of liver, 2; bronchial catarrh, 2; otitis media, 1; debility, 1; laryngitis, 1; fracture of finger, 1; enlarged groin gland, 1.

In the case of scarlatina, the infection is supposed to have been conveyed by a letter from England.

Native Officials.

The health of the native officials for the year was most satisfactory. Seventeen were placed on the sick list out of a total of 288. Average number of days on sick list, 5·41.

No native official was invalided during the year. One death occurred in 1905 from pulmonary tuberculosis.

2nd Gold Coast Regiment.

The health of the 2nd Gold Coast Regiment still maintains its high standard.

The following table shows the average daily strength and average daily sick for each month in Gambaga:—

Month.	Average Strength.	Average daily number on sick list.	Invalided.	Died.
January	328	4·70	—	—
February	330	18·46	4	—
March	330	2·74	2	—
April	328	1·4	1	1
May	320·90	2·16	—	—
June	324·63	17·56	—	—
July	326·74	9·90	—	—
August	325·16	7·35	—	—
September ...	317·50	6·66	—	1
October	285·16	5·16	—	—
November ...	253·65	7·76	—	—
December ...	187	5·35	—	—

Government Carriers.

The health of the Government carriers during the year was satisfactory. The following table shows the average strength and average daily sick for each month in Gambaga:—

Month.	Average Strength.	Average daily number on sick list.	Invalided.	Died.
January	123	·67	—	—
February	104	5·96	—	—
March	85	·32	—	1
April	98	·13	—	—
May	90	·16	—	2
June	95	1·1	—	—
July	96	1·29	—	—
August	100	1·93	—	—
September ...	101	·66	—	—
October	100	·61	—	—
November... ...	102	2·46	—	—
December... ...	101	1·90	—	—

Towns-People.

The towns-people at the various stations throughout the Northern Territories do not avail themselves to any great extent of medical treatment supplied by the Government.

Sanitation.

The sanitation of the various stations is in a most satisfactory state. Of course in the outlying villages or towns where European supervision is not carried out, the sanitary state is not satisfactory, but I believe much improvement has taken place in latter years, due to chiefs and people being instructed to keep their towns clean.

Small-pox.

Very few cases of this disease occurred throughout the Northern Territories during the year under review.

Water.

In the principal stations the water-supply is good and abundant, with the exception of Salaga, where towards the end of the dry season it becomes very scarce.

Meteorology.

The rainfall for the year 1905 was a long way in excess of that of the last three years, as the following table shows:—

Month.	1902. Inches.	1903. Inches.	1904. Inches.	1905. Inches.
January	—	—	—	—
February	·20	—	—	—
March	—	—	·16	·09
April	2·02	2·95	1·74	3·94
May	4·79	5·65	6·65	4·61
June	4·79	·16	3·19	5·47
July	6·36	4·60	10·01	9·83
August	9·40	11·75	7·25	15·13
September... ...	5·12	14·57	7·97	11·43
October	3·83	1·17	3·09	4·86
November... ...	·45	·33	—	·35
December	—	—	—	—
Total ...	37·80	41·30	40·06	55·71

H. Tweedy,

Senior Medical Officer,

Northern Territories.

APPEN

RETURN showing AMOUNT of REVENUE realised in

Quarter ending.	District	Caravan Taxes.	Slaughtering Taxes.	Court Fees and Fines.	Sale of Trade Goods.	Sale of Live Stock
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1905.	White					
31st March	Volta	661 11 3	32 8 6	6 16 0	—	36 0 0
30th June	„	425 5 6	27 8 0	19 5 0	—	112 3 0
30th September ..	„	204 13 0	30 8 0	10 11 0	—	30 15 0
31st December ..	„	622 12 6	38 7 6	61 5 0	—	42 14 0
		1,914 2 3	128 11 0	97 17 0	—	221 12 0
1905.	Black					
31st March	Volta.	615 4 6	10 6 6	21 5 0	—	15 5 0
30th June	„	370 14 6	11 19 0	56 8 6	—	—
30th September ..	„	271 4 6	11 7 0	16 11 6	—	—
31st December ..	„	648 12 0	12 8 0	7 16 0	—	21 17 6
		1,905 15 6	46 0 6	102 1 0	—	37 2 6
1905.						
31st March	Gonja ..	1,277 2 3	36 18 0	32 9 6	—	—
30th June	„ ..	947 13 6	29 0 6	29 17 6	—	—
30th September ..	„ ..	766 9 9	38 2 0	15 11 6	—	18 7 0
31st December ..	„ ..	696 1 0	41 19 6	39 15 6	—	2 18 0
		3,687 6 6	146 0 0	117 14 0	—	21 5 0
1905.						
31st March	Kintampo	1,662 3 6	37 9 6	7 19 6	—	21 15 0
30th June	„ ..	883 11 6	26 7 0	17 9 0	—	3 6 6
30th September ..	„ ..	311 11 0	27 3 6	35 18 6	—	—
31st December ..	„ ..	602 2 0	26 8 0	19 17 6	—	—
		3,459 8 0	117 8 0	81 4 6	—	25 1 6
1905.						
31st March	Navarro.	—	—	—	—	—
30th June	„	—	—	—	—	—
30th September ..	„	—	—	—	—	—
31st December ..	„	169 1 6	0 0 6	—	—	—
		169 1 6	0 0 6	—	—	—
Grand Total ..		11,135 13 9	438 1 0	398 16 6	—	305 1 0

GAMBAGA,

23*rd May*, 1906.

DIX I.

the NORTHERN TERRITORIES during the YEAR 1905.

Sale of Rations.	Stall-holders' Fees.	Sale of Stamps, &c.	Ferry Dues.	Shooting Licences.	Trans-port of Private Loads.	Miscel-laneous.	Grand Total.
£ s. d	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
98 12 0	16 15 6	6 18 2	—	0 10 0	2 0 0	297 12 9	1,159 6 2
105 7 10	16 19 6	5 6 8	2 14 9	10 0 0	—	0 6 0	724 16 3
101 15 3	12 7 6	7 8 0	15 17 9	6 0 0	—	1 19 11	421 15 5
108 6 4	12 2 6	7 15 3	9 9 9	—	—	—	902 12 10
414 3 5	58 5 0	27 8 1	28 2 3	16 10 0	2 0 0	299 18 8	3,208 10 8
30 5 0	2 9 0	—	—	—	—	1 8 6	692 3 6
33 5 1	2 9 0	—	—	—	—	13 11 3	488 7 5
29 9 3½	2 0 0	—	—	1 10 0	—	0 6 6	334 13 9½
27 9 2	1 19 0	—	2 5 0	—	—	0 7 0	720 8 8
120 8 6½	8 17 0	—	2 5 0	1 10 0	—	15 13 3	2,239 13 4½
42 12 7	7 17 6	1 6 11	—	—	—	—	1,398 6 9
36 8 11	7 15 6	1 1 0	—	1 0 0	—	—	1,052 16 11
44 9 2	6 7 0	—	—	—	—	—	889 6 5
48 11 1	6 0 0	—	—	—	—	—	835 5 1
172 1 9	28 0 0	2 7 11	—	1 0 0	—	—	4,175 15 2
45 18 5	5 9 0	8 3 10	—	1 0 0	—	30 17 9	1,820 16 6
34 2 10	5 1 0	7 0 0	—	1 0 0	—	3 5 8	931 3 6
35 2 10	4 10 0	8 7 7	—	1 0 0	—	3 18 8	427 12 1
39 11 11	4 8 0	7 7 0	—	—	—	0 7 6	700 1 11
154 16 0	19 8 0	30 18 5	—	3 0 0	—	38 9 7	3,929 14 0
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	169 2 0
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	169 2 0
861 9 8½	114 10 0	60 14 5	30 7 3	22 0 0	2 0 0	354 1 6	13,722 15 1½

A. E. WATHERSTON, Lieut.-Colonel.

Chief Commissioner,

Northern Territories

APPEN

RETURN of ANIMALS and LOADS on which TAXES were col-

Quarter ending	District	Horses.	Cattle.	Calves.	Donkeys.	Sheep and Goats.	Lambs and Kids.	Loads.			
								Kola-nuts.	Donkeys carrying Kola.	Salt.	Cloth.
1905.	White										
31st March ..	Volta	72	1,933	—	1,489	6,497	—	20½	—	82	130
30th June ..	,,	7	1,286	—	8	1,699	120	12	—	120	25
30th September	,,	—	222	1	—	1,575	—	1,108	24	130½	—
31st December	,,	32	2,668	—	871	4,138	—	1	34	56	72½
		111	6,109	1	2,368	13,909	120	1,141½	58	388½	227½
1905.	Black										
31st March ..	Volta	10	1,389	3	871	8,500	—	23	—	87	90
30th June ..	,,	3	930	7	169	5,660	99	11½	—	120	51
30th September	,,	4	222	—	20	4,226	47	27	—	50	11
31st December	,,	7	648	2	545	6,724	32	38	—	118	222
		24	3,219	12	1,605	25,110	169	99½	—	375	374
1905.	Kin-										
31st March ..	tampo	8	846	—	77	6,331	4	3,545	—	213	466
30th June ..	,,	2	272	—	53	4,050	8	3,634	—	189	356½
30th September	,,	—	222	1	2	1,575	—	1,108½	24	130½	83½
31st December	,,	1	445	—	42	1,762	—	2,529½	110	42	84
		11	1,785	1	177	13,718	12	13,817	134	574½	989½
1905.											
31st March ..	Gonja	36	1,435	—	1,270	9,083	1	585	—	3,222	299
30th June ..	,,	22	1,197	1	433	6,569	10	399	—	3,421	268
30th September	,,	8	924	—	38	2,416	1	118	—	3,939½	270
31st December	,,	17	874	—	318	2,948	—	113	—	1,304½	372½
		83	4,430	1	2,059	21,016	12	1,215½	—	11,887	1,209½
1905.	Fra-										
31st December	fra	—	357	—	276	1,203	—	52	—	26	9½
Grand Total	1905..	293	15,900	15	6,485	74,956	313	16,305½	192	13,250	2,810
,,	1904..	347	16,146	43	9,066	77,817	133	966½	3,309½	11,036½	2,690½
Increase or Decrease	1905	—	—	—	—	—	180	15,339	—	2,213½	119½
		54	246	28	2,581	3,861	—	—	3,117½	—	—

DIX II.

lected in the NORTHERN TERRITORIES during the YEAR 1905.

Loads.															Amount.
Beads.	Cowries.	Tobacco.	Mats.	Leather.	Brass Rods.	Onions.	Ivory.	Native Hoes.	Donkeys carrying Miscellaneous Loads.	Dawadawa.	Shea-Butter.	Horses carrying Loads.	Miscellaneous.		£ s. d.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18½	—	—	—	—	68½		661 11 3
—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	520	85	—	—		425 5 6
17¼	—	3	—	—	—	—	3	—	3	74	240	—	40		204 13 0
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	16	5	—	9		622 12 6
17¼	—	3	—	—	—	8	7	18½	3	610	330	—	117½		1,914 2 3
—	8	19	—	—	8	13	2	10	171	381	42	—	3		615 4 6
1	6	13	—	—	2	8	2	7	74	255	14	—	7		370 14 6
2	10	—	—	—	6	—	—	3	10	94	23½	—	—		271 4 6
—	98	5	—	—	—	17	1	71	—	1,187	212	—	23		648 12 0
3	122	37	—	—	16	38	5	91	255	1,917	291½	—	33		1,905 15 6
5½	—	9	—	—	47	—	—	—	—	23½	88	7	60		1,662 3 6
42	—	11	—	—	59	—	—	—	—	53	80½	—	74½		883 11 6
17¼	—	3	—	—	24	—	3	—	—	77	240½	—	40½		311 11 0
6	1	3	40	1	22	—	3½	—	—	78	381½	—	—		602 2 0
119½	1	26	40	1	152	—	6½	—	—	231½	790½	7	175		3,459 8 0
2	—	6	2	1	47	—	1	—	4	54	732½	—	—		1,277 2 3
5	—	2	1	—	22	—	1	1	1	117½	429	—	779½		947 13 6
2	—	3	3	3	4	—	—	4	—	98	607	—	496		786 9 9
—	—	3	2	3½	9	—	2½	—	—	166½	1,559½	—	101		696 1 0
9	—	14	8	7½	82	—	4½	5	5	436	3,328	—	1,376½		3,687 6 6
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3½		169 1 6
149	123	80	48	8½	250	46	23	114	263	3,194½	4,739½	7	1,705½		11,135 13 9
276	37	106½	174½	54½	252	20	8	20	502½	2,277½	2,615	16	721½		10,084 9 9
—	86	—	—	—	—	26	15	94	—	917	2,124½	—	984		1,051 4 0
127	—	26½	126½	46	2	—	—	—	239½	—	—	9	—		—

A. E. WATHERSTON, Lieut.-Colonel,

Chief Commissioner,

NORTHERN TERRITORIES.

APPENDIX III.

COMPARATIVE RETURN of REVENUE received in the NORTHERN TERRITORIES, GOLD COAST, 1904 and 1905.

Source of Revenue.	1904.	1905.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Caravan Taxes	10,089 2 9	11,130 17 6	1,041 14 9	—
Slaughter House Fees, &c.	496 15 3	550 4 6	53 9 3	—
Court Fines and Fees	347 10 9	402 16 1	55 5 4	—
Sale of Trade Goods	166 11 0	—	—	166 11 0
Sale of Live Stock	446 13 0	358 3 4	—	88 9 8
Sale of Provisions	682 4 9	814 7 1	132 2 4	—
Sale of Stamps, Post Cards, &c. ..	74 11 6	65 12 4	—	8 19 2
Ferry Dues	25 10 0	30 6 3	4 16 3	—
Hunting Licences	10 0 0	22 0 0	12 0 0	—
Miscellaneous	224 8 6	40 11 1	—	183 17 5
TOTALS	12,563 7 6	13,414 18 2	1,299 7 11	447 17 3

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year
465	Gold Coast	1904
466	Barbados...	1904–1905
467	Uganda Protectorate	"
468	Somaliland Protectorate	"
469	Trinidad and Tobago	"
470	Lagos	1904
471	Bahamas	1904–1905
472	British Central Africa	"
473	Mauritius	1904
474	Fiji	"
475	East Africa Protectorate	1904–1905
476	Northern Nigeria	1904
477	British Guiana	1904–1905
478	Leeward Islands...	"
479	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
480	Basutoland	"
481	Ceylon	1904
482	St. Lucia...	"
483	Ashanti	1905
484	Bermuda	"
485	Hong Kong	"
486	St. Helena	"
487	Weihaiwei	"
488	Gold Coast	"
489	Seychelles	"
490	Falkland Islands	"
491	Gambia	"
492	Jamaica	1904–1905

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone ...	Rubber.
29	Ceylon	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Island	Report by Mr. R. T. Simon.
31	Northern Nigeria	Cotton, &c.
32	Do. Do.	Mineral Survey.
33	Southern Nigeria	Do.
34	Montserrat	Agricultural Industry.
35	Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis ...	Sugar.
36	West Indies	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
By DARLING & SON, Ltd., 34-40, Bacon Street, E.

1906.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 530.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1906.

(For Report for 1905, *see* No. 493.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty
July, 1907.

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By DARLING & SON, Ltd., 34-40, Bacon Street, E.

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1907.

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
POLITICAL	5
STATE OF COUNTRY	5
ADMINISTRATION	6
TRADE	7
TRADE ROADS	7
CARAVAN TAXES	9
PRODUCTS AND RESOURCES	9
REVENUE	10
HEALTH	10
TROOPS	10
CRIME...	11
ORDINANCES	11

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No. 530.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

(For Report for 1905 *see* No. 493.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House, Accra,

31st May, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, the Annual Report on the Northern Territories for the year 1906.

The preparation of this Report has been delayed by Colonel Watherston's absence on leave, and his covering letter is only dated on the 1st May current.

2. Dealing seriatim with the various headings of this Report, I would make the following observations:—

3. State of Country (paragraphs 2-7).—The pacification and development of the Lobi-Dagarti country, formerly the scene of numerous punitive expeditions, are very satisfactory; and I have little doubt that, by the employment of similar methods, equally good results will be obtained in the Nabrigo district.

4. Administration (paragraphs 10-15).—The old system of administration remained in force up to the end of the year under review, the new system only taking effect from the beginning of the current year.

(Paragraph 22).—As regards the question of the importation of native salt, by way of the Volta River, I have already recommended that no immediate change should be made in the river convoy system. As soon, however, as Togoland traders are in a position, by means of their roads and railway, to import salt into the Northern Territories more cheaply than British traders can do by river, this question will need reconsideration.

5. Trade Roads (paragraphs 25-26).—A vote of £1,000 is provided in the current year's estimates for the construction and maintenance of these roads, and I hope that funds will be available for providing a much larger vote, for their improvement and extension, in the Estimates for next year.

1125 Wt 24282 7/07 D & S 5 29151 A 2

6. Products and Resources (paragraphs 28-37).—The unfortunate outbreak of cerebro-spinal meningitis (spotted fever) in the Lobi-Dagarti country has prevented any large number of mining labourers being recruited from this district; but the Secretary for Mines reports very favourably on the first batch of these labourers, who are now employed at the Abbontiakoon Mine.

It is hoped that the hand-looms, which I authorised Colonel Watherston to procure in England, will facilitate the production of native cloths, by enabling them to be woven of a greater width. I fear that the distance from the coast is too great for cotton to be profitably cultivated in these Territories for purposes of export; but better results may be expected from the discovery of various kinds of indigenous rubber.

7. The general development of the Northern Territories is proceding satisfactorily, and the results already attained reflect much credit on Colonel Watherston and his assistants, among whom I would specially mention Major Irvine, who, as acting Chief Commissioner, successfully organized the new system of administration at the end of the year.

I have, &c.,

JOHN RODGER,

Governor.

The Right Honourable

The Earl of Elgin, K.G.,

&c., &c., &c.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR THE YEAR 1906.

Political.

1. During the year under review excellent relations have existed with the local representatives of France and Germany. Meetings on two occasions took place between the French officials and the British, at which various local complaints were enquired into and adjusted.

State of Country.

2. The increased travelling that took place during the year by the Chief Commissioner and District Commissioners has done much to bring the administration into touch with parts of the country which before had been visited by no one.

3. Last year two districts were reported as being exceptions to the generally peaceful state of the country. One of them, the centre of the Lobi-Dagarti country, was visited by the Chief Commissioner in April. He spent nearly two months in the country, during which time the chief towns were visited, and nearly all the important chiefs were interviewed, with the result that they agreed to re-organise themselves under their old paramount chiefs, instead of living as they were, in indepencence and at constant warfare with one another.

4. With the exception of one or two truculent towns in this district, this arrangement has been attended with far greater success than was expected, and the paramount chiefs have in most cases proved themselves capable men, and have commenced dealing with all cases in their country, reporting to the Commissioner of the district their decisions and judgments.

5. Two new stations which were opened towards the end of the year in this district will very quickly develop this part of the country, which is thickly populated, and nearly all the towns of which possess large markets.

6. The other exception, the country known as the Nabrigo hills district, lying a day's journey to the north-west of Gambaga, I regret to say remains in the same state as reported last year. Their chiefs refuse to come in, and they still loot whenever they get the chance.

7. Opportunity did not allow of this section of the country being dealt with during the year under review, but steps will be taken at an early date to bring it into touch with our administration by opening a temporary station in its midst, and occupying it for some months. It is not anticipated that it will give much trouble when this is once done.

8. An interesting experiment was tried in the Southern Dagomba country on the death of the head chief Savelugu. Seven applicants arose with apparently equal claims, and some eighty chiefs who attended were too frightened to give any opinions as to which they wanted to be made head chief. The secret ballot was explained to them and eagerly adopted, and as the most capable man was elected by a large majority, their choice has proved most successful.

9. This Dagomba country is the most advanced from a civilised point of view in the whole Protectorate. The markets held at different places every day are attended by enormous crowds, and when the headquarters of the Northern Territories are removed from Gambaga to Tamale, which lies in the centre of this district, a very great impetus to trade is expected to take place.

Administration.

10. The old system of administration which has been in existence since our occupation of the country ceased at the end of this year.

11. Under this system military and civil duties were combined, the Officers of the 2nd Battalion Gold Coast Regiment acting both as Officers Commanding companies and District Commissioners, with the result that it was impossible to do either properly. The civil administration was particularly affected, as Officers were unable to leave their stations owing to the necessity of training their men.

12. The Battalion has been done away with and Constabulary substituted. More stations will in consequence be opened in the country, and many districts brought into touch with our administration, and the Civil Commissioners will no longer be tied down to their stations to superintend drill and musketry as they were bound to do under the old system.

13. New stations were opened towards the end of the year at Tumu and Lorha in the Dagarti and Lobi-Dagarti country and one at Bole to the south of Wa where a big trade with the Ivory Coast exists. There had been formerly a station at Bole but it was closed for want of staff. Trade returns already show it will become an important centre.

14. New head-quarters have been selected at Tamale in place of Gambaga. The latter place, situated as it is in the north-east corner of the Protectorate, was most inconvenient for communication with the outstations, whereas Tamale occupies a more central position and lies in a very thickly populated region.

15. The southern boundary of the Protectorate was altered during the year, the River Volta being fixed as the southern boundary. A former station of the Protectorate, Kintampo,

which lies to the south of the Volta River is now administered by Ashanti.

Trade.

16. There are signs all over the country of increasing trade, more caravans are coming from the north, and traders from the south are buying local cattle in greatly increasing numbers in preference to the Moshi cattle.

17. During the year an Ordinance was passed enforcing the import duty of 10 per cent. on all goods coming into this Protectorate from the German and French colonies that surround it.

18. Without a preventive service this Ordinance is difficult to enforce owing to the open state of the country, which allows would-be smugglers to cross anywhere they like.

19. The few good roads leading from German territory are, however, watched, and the big markets of Salaga and Gambaga are constantly inspected, and some heavy fines inflicted have had the effect of making the traders prefer to go to Kumasi for their goods in the future.

20. The French side is not so important, most of the foreign goods in the markets being of German manufacture.

21. Silver coinage increases each year in circulation and towards the latter part of the year copper coinage was received and put in circulation.

22. Salt from Ada and kola nuts form the great attraction to the caravans, and the supply of the former does not exceed the demand. It would appear, therefore, ill advised at present to do anything which would divert the river-borne salt from reaching Yeji and allowing it to find a market in Togoland.

23. With the spread of Mahommedanism there is a growing demand for white baft, green fezzes, purple and green cloth, brass kettles, and Mahommedan prayer beads. Apart from these the greatest demand is for looking glasses, combs, beads, good pieces of coloured silk and velvet, good cloth printed both sides, enamelled basins, needles, reels of cotton, sewing machines, fish hooks, handkerchiefs, and enamel ware.

24. The removal of headquarters to the more central position of Tamale, situated as it is in the midst of a very thickly populated country, will do much to stimulate a trade demand in a new country for European goods. Tamale, from its position, will gradually form a big distributing centre for the whole country.

Trade Roads.

25. Trade roads in fairly good condition exist as follows :—

On the East of the Protectorate.

(*a*) Yeji to Gambaga *viâ* Salaga, Patenga, and Karaga, distance 168 miles (used in the wet season).

(*b*) Yeji to Gambaga *via* Tamale and Savelugu, distance 184 miles (used in the dry season).

The above roads are connected with Ashanti by a very indifferent road *viâ* Attabubu and Mampon, which is to be taken in hand at an early date and made a first class road.

A road is also being built from Yeji to Kratchi at the request of the salt traders and will be completed in 1907.

Roads from Gambaga.

(*c*) Gambaga to Bawku and French Territory *viâ* Zongoiri and Binduri, distance 46 miles.

(*d*) Gambaga to Navarro and French Territory *viâ* Zongoiri, Zigu, and Bolga-Tanga, distance 57 miles.

In the Centre of the Protectorate.

(*e*) Tamale to Navarro and French Territory, *viâ* Kumbungu, Singa, and Yagaba, distance 124 miles.

(*f*) Tamale to Navarro *viâ* Savelugu, Nasia, Wale-Wale, and Du, distance 100 miles. (This latter road as far as Nasia being the same as (*b*).

(*g*) Gambaga to Daboya and thence to Kintampo, excellent in places but not of much use in the rainy season, distance 220 miles.

On the West of the Protectorate.

(*h*) Kintampo to Wa *viâ* Bole, distance 165 miles.

From Wa there are several roads in the Dagarti country cleared, the important ones being as follows :—

(*j*) Wa to Leo (French territory) *viâ* Issa, Dasima, and Golu, distance 65 miles.

(*k*) Wa to Leo *viâ* Walembele and Tumu, distance 80 miles.

(*l*) Wa to Hamela (French territory) *viâ* Nator, Iziri, Lorha, and Nandom, 142 miles.

Cross Roads in this District.

(*m*) Nandom to Dasima *viâ* Samoa and Nandaw, distance 42 miles.

(*n*) Nandom to Navarro *viâ* Lambussie, Golu, Tumu, and Batiasan, distance 124 miles.

(*p*) Iziri to Hamela (French Territory) *viâ* Tizza and Lambussie, distance 46 miles.

26. All the above roads are cleared of all trees, roots, and stumps, &c., for a breadth varying from 12 feet to 30 feet, and with comparatively little expenditure they could be made fit for wheel transport such as mule carts, Cape carts, and ox waggons for at least seven months in the year.

Caravan Taxes.

27. These form the main item of Revenue of the Northern Territories, and are raised on various articles of merchandise, which may be divided as follows :—

(*a*) Live stock, chiefly from French territory.
(*b*) Salt from Ada (entirely in native hands).
(*c*) Kola from Ashanti.
(*d*) Trade goods from Togoland, and in a small degree from the Ivory Coast.
(*e*) Trade goods from the Colony, including European salt.
(*f*) Native produce found in the country :—
  (i) Dawa-Dawa.
  (ii) Rubber.
  (iii) Shea-butter.
  (iv) Native-grown cotton.
  (v) Native cloth.

Products and Resources.

28. The opening of new stations in the Lobi-Dagarti and Fra-Fra countries has brought us into touch with an enormously thickly populated district, and the opportunity has been taken to impress upon the chiefs the advantages of sending their young men to work in the mines and the Colony.

29. To bring it more clearly to their notice specially selected intelligent men from all parts of the country were taken by a European official on a trip to the mining district where they were shown the work, the method of living, rates of pay, and and general treatment.

30. Many of these men had never left their villages before, and the results have already been successful,—one gang very shortly after their return proceeding to the Abbontiakoon Mines, and many others were ready to follow, but for the present moment the enlistment for labour has received a severe check, due to an epidemic (cerebro-spinal meningitis) raging in that part of the country.

31. However this is only temporary, and there is no reason to doubt that many will follow later, and in bringing back their savings will introduce much needed money into the country.

32. Markets in the Lobi-Dagarti country are also being formed for the cattle trade, and merchants are beginning to buy local

cattle in preference to the Moshi cattle as they find, situated as the country is so much nearer to the kola-producing districts, that they can make two trips in a dry season instead of one.

33. Cotton is being grown in increased quantities for native consumption and experiments at the request of the British Cotton Growing Association are being tried at Salaga and Yeji near the Volta River with American Black Rattler and Volta River cotton seed.

34. Hand looms are being introduced which it is hoped will give an impetus to trade in native-made cloth.

35. Rubber has been found growing in the north-west of the Protectorate, and an assistant in the Agricultural Department is now making an exhaustive survey of the district in order to classify the various species that have been discovered.

36. Shea butter and Dawa-dawa are largely exported to the colony.

37. It is intended as soon as funds permit to have a mineralogical survey of the country made.

Revenue.

38. The revenue received from all sources during the year under review amounted to £14,100 8*s.* 1*d.* being an increase of £685 9*s.* 11*d.* compared with the previous year.

Health.

39. The general health was not so good as in former years. There was a great deal of sickness amongst Europeans during the latter part of the year.

40. I attach a return by the Senior Medical Officer which shows the amount of sickness at the various stations, from which it will be seen that Yeji, Kintampo, and Gambaga were the most unhealthy stations during the year.

41. A serious epidemic of a disease resembling cerebro-spinal meningitis broke out in March and April in the Lobi-Dagarti country from which large numbers died. It ceased with the rains, but I regret to say it has returned again at the present moment with increased virulence, and thousands are dying of it. No clue has been discovered as to how the disease is spread, but three Medical Officers are at the moment investigating it.

Troops.

42. The second battalion of the Gold Coast Regiment was disbanded at the close of the year and the Northern Territories Constabulary enrolled in its place.

The behaviour of the troops during the year was very good and their musketry showed a vast improvement on former years.

CRIME.

43. There has been an increase of crime in the Protectorate but this may be accounted for by the fact that natives are bringing in their complaints much more freely now since the new stations were opened. A return is attached of the cases dealt with.

ORDINANCES.

44. The following Ordinances were passed during the year :—

An Ordinance further to amend "The Northern Territories Administration Ordinance, 1902." No. 1 of 1906.

An Ordinance to further amend "The Northern Territories Administration Ordinance, 1902." No. 2 of 1906.

An Ordinance to provide for the surrender of fugitive criminals in the Northern Territories No. 3 of 1906.

An Ordinance for the constitution and regulation of a constabulary force in the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast, No. 4 of 1906.

An Ordinance to amend "The Northern Territories Rivers Ordinance, 1903." No. 5 of 1906.

An Ordinance for the further amendment of "The Northern Territories Administration Ordinance, 1906." No. 6 of 1906.

A. E. WATHERSTON, Lieut. Colonel,
Chief Commissioner,
Northern Territories.

APPENDIX.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of REVENUE collected in the NORTHERN TERRITORIES, GOLD COAST, 1905 and 1906.

Source of Revenue.	1905.	1906.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs Duties	—	131 4 3	131 4 3	—
Caravan Taxes	11,130 17 6	11,803 8 0	672 10 6	—
Slaughter Taxes .. .. / Stall Holders Fees	550 4 6	570 14 6	20 10 0	—
Court Fines, &c	402 16 1	319 14 8	—	83 1 5
Sale of Live Stock	358 3 4	76 12 6	—	285 10 10
Sale of Provisions and Medical Comforts.	814 7 1	893 13 1	79 6 0	—
Sale of Stamps	65 12 4	98 2 9	32 10 5	—
Ferry Dues	30 6 3	25 2 3	—	5 4 0
Shooting Licence	22 0 0	27 0 0	5 0 0	—
Trade Goods	—	61 10 0	61 10 0	—
Miscellaneous	40 11 1	97 5 5	56 14 4	—
TOTALS	13,414 18 2	14,100 8 1	1,059 6 2	373 16 3

	£ s. d.
Total Revenue 1906	14,100 8 1
Total Revenue 1905	13,414 18 2
Total Increase	685 9 11

A. E. WATHERSTON, Lieut. Colonel,
Chief Commissioner,
Northern Territories.

Gambaga.

APPENDIX.

Return shewing amount of sickness at the various stations in the year 1906.

Months.	Gambaga.			Kintampo.			Salaga.			Yeji.			Wa.			Navoro.			All Districts.	
	Average strength.	Sick.	Invalided.	Average strength.	Sick.	Invalided.	Average strength.	Sick.	Invalided.	Average strength.	Sick.	Invalided.	Average strength.	Sick.	Invalided.	Average strength.	Sick.	Invalided.	Totals, strength.	Totals, Average Sick.
January	9·7	5	—	2·83	6	1*	1·1	—	—	1·2	—	—	2·45	—	—	2·0	1	—	19·28	12
February ...	11·0	1	—	2·83	2	—	1·5	1	—	2·4	—	—	2·07	—	—	2·0	—	—	21·80	4
March	9·70	1	—	3·38	3	1†	1·1	—	—	3·8	2	1*	3·03	1	—	2·0	—	—	23·01	7
April	7·06	—	—	4·0	2	—	1·1	—	—	3·3	2	—	3·7	1	—	2·0	—	—	21·16	5
May	8·64	4	—	2·12	2	—	2·06	—	—	3·8	3	—	1·48	—	—	3·09	2	—	21·19	11
June	8·50	3	—	3·2	1	—	1·9	1	—	2·3	1	—	2·23	1	—	2·0	—	—	20·13	7
July	7·58	2	—	3·4	2	—	2·6	1	—	2·2	2	—	2·48	2	—	1·51	3	—	19·77	12
August	8·51	6	—	2·7	3	—	2·0	1	—	1·9	1	—	1·93	2	1*	1·0	—	—	18·04	13
September ...	8·0	3	—	2·56	—	—	1·3	—	—	2·6	2	—	3·0	2	—	1·0	—	—	18·46	7
October	7·64	6	—	2·87	2	—	1·7	1	—	2·6	2	—	3·0	1	1†	1·0	—	—	18·81	12
November ...	6·16	3	—	3·18	—	—	1·3	—	—	2·5	—	—	2·0	—	—	1·50	—	—	16·64	3
December ...	4·54	5	—	2·08	—	—	1·3	—	—	2·0	—	—	2·25	2	—	2·0	—	—	14·17	7
Totals ...	97·03	39	—	35·15	23	2	18·96	5	—	30·6	15	1	29·62	12	2	21·10	6	—	232·46	100

* 2 for blackwater fever.
† 1 for chronic gastritis.
1 for debility.
1 for cardiac debility.

APPENDIX.

COMPARATIVE TABLE showing the number of OFFENCES, APPREHENSIONS, CONVICTIONS and ACQUITTALS for the last FOUR YEARS.

—	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
Number of offences reported to the Police ...	122	174	306	325
Number of persons apprehended by the Police or summoned before the Magistrates.	122	174	306	325
Number of Summary Convictions:—				
1. For offences against the person	16	29	16	118
2. For slave dealing...	3	10	—	27
3. For offences against property other than prædial larceny.	26	52	54	66
4. For other offences	30	51	113	41
Number of convictions in Superior Courts:—				
1. For offences against the person	8	—	2	8
2. For slave dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For offences against property	18	8	40	23
4. For other offences	7	—	17	30
Number of persons acquitted:—				
1. In the Inferior Courts	12	12	26	13
2. In the Superior Courts	2	2	—	9

A. E. WATHERSTON, Lieut. Colonel,
Chief Commissioner,
Northern Territories.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
501	Grenada	1905
502	Straits Settlements	"
503	Gibraltar	"
504	Trinidad and Tobago	1905–1906
505	St. Lucia	1905
506	Mauritius	"
507	Southern Nigeria (Lagos)	"
508	Somaliland	1905–1906
509	Fiji	1905
510	St. Vincent	1905–1906
511	Sierra Leone	1905
512	Southern Nigeria	"
513	Basutoland	1905–1906
514	British Guiana	"
515	British Honduras	1905
516	Northern Nigeria	1905–1906
517	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
518	Leeward Islands	"
519	East African Protectorate	"
520	Seychelles	1906
521	Hong Kong	"
522	Falkland Islands	"
523	Ashanti	"
524	Jamaica	1905–1906
525	Uganda	"
526	St. Helena	1906
527	Ceylon	"
528	Bermuda	"
529	Gibraltar	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
34	Montserrat	Agricultural Industry.
35	Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis	Sugar.
36	West Indies	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.
37	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1904–5.
38	St. Helena	Agriculture (1884).
39	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
40	Northern Nigeria	Taxation of Natives.
41	East Africa Protectorate	Report on Kenia Forests.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1907.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 566.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1907.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 530.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
July, 1908.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, Ltd., 34-40, Bacon Street, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN and SONS, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and
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1908.

[Cd. 3729-30.] *Price* 2*d.*

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
POLITICAL	6
ADMINISTRATION	6
STATE OF THE COUNTRY	7
EDUCATION	11
LABOUR SUPPLY	11
PUBLIC WORKS	12
TELEGRAPHS	14
MAHOMMEDANS' AND OTHER MISSIONS	14
COTTON EXPERIMENT	15
PRISONS	15
SEKONDI AGRICULTURAL SHOW	15
TECHNICAL INSTRUCTION	15
TRADE	16
TAXATION	17
REVENUE	17
CRIME...	17
HEALTH	17
ORDINANCES	18
MEDICAL REPORT	20

APPENDIX.

CONSTABULARY	23

No. 566.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 530.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House, Accra,
28th April, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, the Annual Report on the Northern Territories for the year 1907, and to make the following observations on various matters referred to therein.

2. Administration (paragraph 6).—As will be seen from paragraph 41, telegraphic communications were extended from Salaga to Tamale (78 miles) and from Bole to Wa (70 miles), during the year under review; and provision for further extensions will be made, probably in the 1909 Estimates, as soon as more urgently-required lines in Ashanti have been completed.

3. Education (paragraphs 20 and 21).—Steps are now being taken to arrange for training a few lads from the Northern Territories in the Government School at Cape Coast; and provision will be made for establishing a Government School at Tamale, as soon as a qualified native teacher is available.

The language difficulty I have already alluded to with reference to a meeting which I had with chiefs assembled at Wa in the course of my tour of the Northern Territories in 1906:

> "The languages and dialects of the various tribes, even within a comparatively small radius, are very numerous; and in a 'palaver' with the chiefs on the day after our arrival I was obliged to employ five different interpreters to explain my address to the assembled chiefs—in Hausa, Bole, Lobi, Grunshi, and Moshi."

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4. Labour Supply (paragraphs 22 and 23).—These paragraphs will be referred to the Secretary for Mines, for enquiry and report; but special instructions were issued, in the first instance, as to the care and protection to be afforded to these hinterland natives employed at the mines, and when I was at Tarkwa last year I heard excellent accounts of them.

5. Public Works (paragraphs 24-31).—The manner in which the new headquarters have been established at Tamale is very satisfactory.

6. Roads (paragraphs 37-39).—Good progress seems to have been made with the trunk road from Tamale to Kumasi, a distance of, approximately, 250 miles.

7. Missions (paragraph 43).—These "White Fathers" are the French missionaries belonging to Cardinal Lavigerie's Order of "Pères Blancs."

8. Cotton Experiment (paragraph 44).—The question of developing the cultivation of cotton in the Northern Territories, for purposes of export, is dealt with in the last report of the Superintendent of Agriculture for British West Africa.

9. Agricultural Shows (paragraph 46).—Special arrangements will be made for ensuring a good representation of products from the Northern Territories at the Kumasi Agricultural Show, to be held at the end of the current year; and every facility will be afforded to chiefs and others wishing to attend that Show, the date of which will be fixed in consultation with both the Chief Commissioners concerned.

In this connection I may mention that provision has been made in the 1908 Estimates for a native travelling instructor, to improve and encourage the development of agriculture in the Northern Territories; and that, as I have already reported, an Agricultural Station will be established at Tamale next year.

10. Technical Instruction (paragraphs 47-50).—It is unfortunate that the experimental looms from England have not proved a success, and I question whether it will be practicable to send out a special instructor; but it should be possible for some selected officer from the Northern Territories to obtain sufficient practical knowledge, while on leave, to enable him to teach the local weavers if the looms in question are not too complicated.

11. Trade (paragraph 55).—If, as I believe is the case, a nickel currency has been adopted in Southern Nigeria (possibly also in Northern Nigeria), I agree with the Chief Commissioner that it would probably be advisable to adopt a similar currency for this Colony and its Dependencies; and, after further enquiry, I will address Your Lordship on the subject in a separate despatch.

12. Health (paragraph 69).—The epidemic of cerebro-spinal meningitis is a continuation of that referred to in paragraph 30 of the Annual Report on the Northern Territories for the year 1906; and although only a few sporadic cases have recently occurred in these Territories the disease still forms the subject of careful enquiry and investigation both in England and West Africa.

13. In conclusion, I trust that our Lordship will agree with me in thinking that this Report is generally satisfactory; that the substitution of a civil for the previous semi-military administration of these Territories has been fully justified; and that the progress made, both in civilizing the natives and developing the resources of their county, reflects much credit on Colonel Watherston and his assistants.

I have, &c.,

JOHN RODGER,

Governor.

The Right Honourable

The Secretary of State for the Colonies,

&c., &c., &c.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR THE YEAR 1907.

POLITICAL.

1. During the year under review excellent relations have existed locally with the foreign Powers whose boundaries are contiguous to our own. Constant interchanges of visits have taken place at all our border stations with the French posts in their neighbourhood, and several English officers spent the 14th July, by special invitation, at Wagadugu, the French headquarters.

Towards the close of the year the French military administration gave way to a purely civil administration, but up to the present there has been no change in the location of the centres of their administration. With their assistance, we were able to break up an organised gang of robbers, whose looting was done chiefly in our country, and who were doing considerable harm to the trade passing from Moshi through Gambaga to Kumasi. All attempts to arrest them failed, as they invariably took refuge in French territory. However, thanks to the co-operation of the French Resident of Tenkodogo, all the leading members of the gang are now undergoing lengthy terms of imprisonment, and the gang itself is completely broken up.

ADMINISTRATION.

2. The year marks a great epoch in the administration of the country, in that on the 1st January a combined military and civil administration, from which it was impossible to get adequate results, gave way to a purely civil administration, the 2nd Gold Coast Regiment, West African Frontier Force, being disbanded and replaced by a considerably reduced number of civil police, called the "Northern Territories Constabulary," a portion of whom are mounted; and, in accordance with the general scheme on which the West African Frontier Force is founded, the Protectorate maintains at Gambaga, and bears the cost of, one company of the force, whose regimental headquarters are at Kumasi.

3. In accordance with the new scheme of administration, districts have been formed as follows:—

(*a.*) The Southern Province, headquarters at Tamale, sub-districts at Salaga, Yeji, and Bole.

(*b.*) The North Western Province, headquarters at Wa, sub-districts at Lorha (Lobi country) and Tumu (Grunshi country).

(*c.*) The North Eastern Province, headquarters at Gambaga, sub-district at Navarro.

Provincial Commissioners are in charge of the headquarters, and District Commissioners at the sub-districts.

4. The headquarters of Administration were moved in December from Gambaga to Tamale.

5. Towards the close of the year Yeji as a sub-district was closed down, and it is hoped, when sufficient District Commissioners are in the country, to make a sub-district at Bawku, in the North Eastern Province, where European supervision is very badly wanted.

6. During the year the Southern Province and the North Western Province were put in proper working order, but for several reasons it was found impossible to organise the North Eastern Province, the main one being that in the District were a great number of towns that showed no intention of coming under our control. It was considered advisable to place the Provincial Commissioner at Navarro to get in touch with the surrounding country, whilst the Chief Commissioner undertook the local work at Gambaga, as had been the custom under the old system. From the results of an incident mentioned further on in this Report, the main obstacle has been removed, and on the return of the Provincial Commissioner from leave the District will be organised on its proper basis. Naturally with a new scheme, a great many possible improvements have been brought to notice, but on the whole the scheme is working quite up to expectations; though it is hoped that by 1909 more decentralization will be possible, especially in finance matters, which, with the absence of a complete system of telegraph service, are apt to get out of control of headquarters. Attention is specially called to this, as it is difficult to realize what it means to have to deal with urgent matters when it takes 16 days for a message to come and 16 days for its return. This will be remedied no doubt in a year or two when money is available to complete the telegraph system.

7. All officials have worked most loyally to make the new scheme a success, and the constant travelling, impossible under the old military system, has already worked wonders in developing and bringing into touch previously unknown districts.

State of the Country.

8. The administration of the country under what is undoubtedly the only sound method, viz., by the natives themselves, is rendered particularly difficult for many reasons in the Northern Territories. They may be shortly put as follows:—

(1.) Absence of any really big chiefs.

(2.) The break up of what were kingdoms to a certain degree, by Samory and Barbatu, and consequent independence of small communities.

(3.) The absolute imbecility of 60 per cent. of the present elected chiefs.

(4.) The want of any common laws, even amongst tribes speaking one language, with regard to land, matrimony, &c. It is rare to find the head of a family ever treated with respect by his sons after they have once reached a certain age.

(5.) The constant stream of traders passing through the country who prefer to bring their small native matters to the white man rather than take them to the local chief.

9. With regard to the first,—the want of big men in the country.

The only organised tribes are:—

(i.) The Mamprussi, under the King of Gambaga.

(ii.) The Gonjas, under the King of Khombe, residing near Salaga.

(iii.) The Walas, under the King of Wa.

(iv.) The two sections of the Dagombas, one under the Chief of Karaga, the other under the Chief of Savelugu, both originally under the Kings of Yendi, which latter town is now in possession of Germany.

10. Of these the two latter are probably the strongest men, and their people are more intelligent than any other; their chiefs are a very much better class than can be found elsewhere in the country, and it was mainly due to this that the new headquarters have been moved to Tamale, situated as it is in a very thickly populated part of the country under the King of Savelugu.

11. The remainder of the country, Lobis, Dagartis, Grunshis, Kussassis, were broken up in 1896 to 1898 by Samory and Barbatu; and each compound more or less is a law unto themselves. They obey no man really, though they have nominal chiefs, selected as a rule for their incapacity to make anyone obey them. Partial blindness, paralysis, and often idiocy appear to have been the qualifications in many parts of the country, the only *sine qua non* being that the chief should have plenty of cattle, as on him falls the privilege of paying any fines that the Commissioner might impose on the town.

12. Much trouble has been taken to divide these people up into their original divisions, and to come under the paramount chiefs whom they were in the habit of obeying before Samory and Barbatu overran the country. It has been

attended with great success in the North Western District, where every town has been allotted to some paramount chief with their own consent, and they now take their native disputes to the chiefs, which has considerably reduced the work that fell previously to the Commissioners' Courts.

13. This is due to constant travelling, constant speeches, and care taken to replace each impotent chief by the best selection that could be made whenever occasion arises, but it will be two generations at least before we get chiefs who will approach anything like what is required for general progress and administration in the country as far as native assistance is concerned. This subject is dealt with further on in the Report.

14. The absence of any strict laws or even customs over matrimony leads to most of the civil cases in Court. The constancy with which a woman changes her husband would be humorous if it were not for the trouble it gives. A good deal of this curious breach of their old tribal customs is due to the advent of the soldiers into the country and the constant stream of traders of all nations that pass through. When they are tired of travelling day after day, they go to the soldiers' lines. There, after a time, they find the constant water-carrying a trial, so they run away, either to their own villages or join another caravan, and up to a certain age they are always changing, leading to constant fights between the last and the new husband, which are often taken up by the respective villages of the two men.

15. The most important events of the year under this heading have been the pacification of a part of the country referred to in last year's Report as the Sapari Hills, in which it was feared that an expedition would have to take place. The other was the break up of a gang of looters who were doing much to drive traders to Togoland rather than face the dangers of the Gambaga-Kumasi Road at the point where it crossed the northern frontier.

16. With regard to the first of these, Captain O'Kinealy, the Provincial Commissioner at Navarro, had continually visited the neighbourhood and endeavoured to find out all he could about the people inhabiting this district, but found it very hard to get any definite information, as they were greatly feared and it was almost impossible to get a guide to go anywhere near them. In September an opportunity presented itself, and with Dr. Lefanu, Medical Officer, and 15 constables he made an unexpected march into the hills and surprised the inhabitants by appearing up an almost inaccessible path with their horses. The people, taken by surprise, at first ran away, but came back the next day, and after a few more days were induced to collect for a palaver, at which they said that the reason for their enmity to the white man was

that Moshis, sent by the white man, had settled near their country, heard cases, confiscated their cattle, and so they had combined to fight all Moshi and white men, but that they had no grievance against the white man except in so far as they considered that the Moshi had been sent by the white man. A reference is made further on in the Report to the Moshi trouble. On being informed that the Moshi had no connection with the white man, and that at that time some of their leaders were in prison, being punished and removed from the country, they said they were willing to live peacefully and come in to Navarro, the headquarters of their district. Captain O'Kinealy remained 14 days amongst them, visited all their towns, and reports that there will be no need for any expedition in the future. Thanks are greatly due to Captain O'Kinealy and Dr. Lefanu for their plucky action; for had we gone there with any considerable force the people would have certainly combined for a fight; and the steep precipices that surround their stronghold, and the fact that every road leading up to the hills is extremely steep amidst large rocks and caves, would have led to a great many casualties before the place could have been taken.

17. The Moshi referred to above were important men in the old Moshi Horse, a native mounted levy which was used in the old days on expeditions, and disbanded a few years ago. Some of their leading men had settled in some parts of the country where they knew the white man never went, and giving out they were sent by the white man to keep order, they proceeded to exploit the surrounding country for their own purposes. They were accompanied by many followers armed with Dane guns, and stopped at nothing, including murder, to enforce their power. Three of the leading men were arrested during the year, condemned to death for murder, and executed, one in the neighbourhood of the Sapari Hills and two at Gambaga; and this gave Captain O'Kinealy, who had gathered from information that the fear of the Moshi had as much to do as anything with their hostile attitude, the chance he was waiting for.

18. The opening of the station at Lorha has had an excellent effect on the turbulent Lobis on our side of the river, though it is understood that the same tribe still give much trouble to the French on their side. There are still a few in the south-west corner who have not come in yet, but they have been recently visited and an effort made to induce them to give up looting and fighting.

19. There is still a tendency in this part of the country to fly to the bow and arrow on the least provocation, but the cases are usually reported now by the chiefs, a few of whom are making a great effort to rule their newly-obtained districts in an efficient manner, as they are beginning to realize how trade is affected by this danger of being shot at, and how

little of it comes to these districts in consequence, for though they do not want to buy anything, they make money out of providing the caravans with food.

Education.

20. In face of the fact that for the most part the present generation of chiefs and most of their probable successors will be of little use to us in administration or in any capacity whatever, it would appear that there is the most pressing need for schools to be started at the administrative centres, so that a new generation of chiefs may be trained. The difficulty that at once presents itself is the many different languages that are in use, not one of which an educated native teacher from the coast is likely to speak. The main languages are:—Gonja, Dagomba, Wala, Lobi, Dagarti, Grunshi, Nankanni, Kussassi, Mamprussi, and Kanjargah. A corrupted form of Hausa as a means of communication can usually be found in every village, but except in the big trading towns it is by no means common. Consequently it would appear that a start should be made at once to educate a few selected intelligent men of each tribe in English, so that, as soon as funds can be provided for the introduction of an educational system, they may be in a position to act as interpreters to the native-trained school teachers when they arrive in the country.

From the point of view of increased trade, a complete and thorough scheme of education all over the country is, in my opinion, of certainly as much use at present as money spent in roads.

21. It is greatly to be hoped that money can be found in 1909 to start the education scheme on the lines suggested above. I hold very strongly with the opinion that the pushing of the English language in the country is of more lasting benefit than forcing Commissioners to learn one of the many languages.

Labour Supply.

22. During this year an effort has been made to induce the natives to go down to work in the mines. About 400 are at work, and the future supply will depend very much on their report as to treatment and the amount of pay they save.

23. Reports to hand at present show that whereas on one or two mines the managers are taking much trouble with them, on others they are being exploited by the more astute native of the coast, and will probably return with nothing. With care and trouble there is without doubt a large supply of labour to draw on, should the mining industry develop and require it, but if the natives once get an idea that they cannot save money, the supply will cease at once. The men from the

North Western Province, from which most of them have come, are men of good physique, and I understand they are giving satisfaction.

Local labour is easily procurable, and has been largely employed during the current year on the telegraph extension.

Public Works.

(a) *New Headquarters.*

24. Though only commenced in March, considerable progress has been made in building the new headquarters. Much trouble was experienced at first in inducing skilled labour to come up at anything like a reasonable price, owing to the fear they had of the country. At the present moment there is no difficulty in obtaining as much as is wanted, the safety of the country and the cheapness of living having been reported to the coast by the first comers.

25. By the end of the year sufficient buildings had been erected to allow of the Chief Commissioner moving down with his office and clerks, and it is expected that the other heads of departments will be in residence by the first week in April, 1908.

26. The headquarters are situated in a very populous district, and very large markets are held in the town, and in many neighbouring ones every sixth day, and the daily market is rapidly growing.

27. Situated on a ridge, with very extensive views to the east and west in open park-like country, excellent water supply, and reported amongst natives as being extremely healthy for men, cattle, and horses, it is doubtful if a better-situated station exists in West Africa. Plenty of excellent sites exist for European residences, should traders settle later on.

28. A road will be made shortly to Yapei, on the river Volta, distance 1½ days' march, which should become the port for river-borne trade, canoes being able to reach there for several months in the year. The markets here and in the neighbourhood are so large that little doubt exists that this can be made the distributing centre of the Northern Territories.

29. The residential houses are being built of stone, two-storey, with shingle roofs, and during the year under review, besides many temporary buildings, the following progess has been made in the permanent ones:—Two quarters are practically completed, Court-house and two offices for the District Commissioner are all but finished. A general store will be completed early in January, and by the 1st April the Treasury and Constabulary buildings, main guard, and vault will be ready for use, and three bungalows. The total cost is estimated at £8,750, spread over three years. Besides the above,

a large amount of bush clearing has been done, and three-quarters of a mile of a good road made past the sites of the bungalows. The total money voted and spent during the year was £1,150.

30. A special feature is the interest the natives have shown in the work, and the assistance in shape of free labour which has been willingly given by the surrounding chiefs for clearing the ground, carrying stones, and other unskilled labour.

31. Mule carts are in use now for bringing in timber, &c.

(b) *Out-stations.*

32. The new districts of Lorha, Tumu, and Bole were started at the beginning of the year.

33. At Lorha, a residence with three rooms, clerks' quarters, a dispensary, and a fort (inside which are the Court-house, stores, Treasury vault, guard-room, and prison) were completed. An excellent site has been selected about threequarters of a mile from the Black Volta River, but there is a difficulty at present in finding a good water supply in the immediate vicinity of the station.

34. At Tumu a suitable station has been laid out with two European quarters, clerks' and dispenser's quarters, Court-house, hospital, and district office, also stables. All the above are of burnt brick.

35. At Bole a house has been erected, Court-house, offices, and a prison. Here local labour was very difficult to obtain.

36. Considering all the above was done by the District Commissioner of the place and the Medical Officer in addition to their other duties, and there was no skilled labour available, it reflects great credit on the officers concerned.

Roads.

37. The section of the Yeji-Kratchi road lying in the Protectorate was completed during the year, and there remains a portion in the Ashanti Administration to be completed. It is hoped that as soon as this road is finished an impetus will be given to the trade that reaches this country by the River Volta. The road passes through a very sparsely inhabited country, but I am assured that many people are waiting to settle on it as soon as it is completed.

38. A start was made towards the end of the rains on the trunk road, Kumasi to Tamale, commencing at the left bank of the River Volta at Yeji. Some 3½ miles, partially metalled, has been formed over one of the worst swamps the road has to cross, a swamp that extends about seven miles. As soon as

this is completed the formation should extend very rapidly. Plenty of stone exists, and few bridges will be required. The road will pass through Salaga, Dogonkade, Turu, Palbe, Kapendi, Yamalagha, to Tamale, distance about 120 miles.

39. At present the roads mentioned in my last Annual Report are kept clean and meet all the present requirements of the country. Money has been voted in 1908 for their upkeep, and this will be spent in clearing away stumps, roots, and rocks, and widening the more important ones with a view to their being metalled later on when the trunk road is completed. Officials home on leave now have signified their intention of bringing out light carts for the purposes of visiting their districts. This applies to the North Western District, where use has been made of the very populous condition of the country to clear roads between every village.

Rest Houses.

40. Rest houses are being gradually erected by the natives under supervision at the principal halting places on the main roads and in all villages where paramount chiefs live.

They take the form of circular Dagomba huts, three of which are erected at each place, with boys' room and kitchen.

This allows the District Commissioner from time to time to settle down with his clerk in a new part of his district for a fortnight at a time, even in the rainy season, and thus get more in touch with the natives than a visit during a hurried tour allows.

Telegraphs.

41. Important extensions of lines were made during the year from Salaga to Tamale on the east (78 miles), and from Bole to Wa on the west (70 miles). Between these respective stations the telephone is in use.

Mahommedans' and Other Missions.

42. From reports generally it would appear that the recent spread of Mahommedanism has not been continued. In places it has remained dormant and in others a retrograde motion to the former paganism has taken place.

They keep the praying places, however, in case any more missions should come, but during the year the country has been free from the Marabouts and foreign Malams.

43. The White Fathers have been settled at a mission station at Navarro, but as they are still learning the language they have made little progress at present.

Cotton Experiment.

44. The British Cotton Growing Association kindly provided some seed for experimental purposes of American Rattler cotton and Volta River cotton.

They were tried at two places, Salaga, 23 miles from the river, and the centre of a big distributing trade, and at Yeji, on the banks of the Volta. At both places the American was a failure, and at Salaga the Volta was much discoloured owing to a maggot in the seeds, but at Yeji some very good cotton was produced from the Black Volta cotton, and picked in December. Samples have been sent to the Imperial Institute. A great deal of native cotton is grown in the North Western Province, but if the Yeji cotton proves to have sufficient market value, a large area of country close to the river could be put under cultivation, the situation being an exceptionally good one, as there is a big salt trade up to Yeji and Daboya, and many of the canoes return to Kratchi and Kpong at present empty.

Prisons.

45. A substantial prison has been built at Gambaga and a carpenters' shop attached to it, and all the longer term prisoners are employed in it. Unfortunately so much clearing of station roads, water carrying, and sanitary details are required in each station that it is impossible to carry out the same system in the out-stations at present.

Sekondi Agricultural Show.

46. It was extremely difficult to get the natives of the country to take any interest whatever in the Sekondi Agricultural Show. An attempt was made and what little was done is due mainly to the energy of the Provincial Commissioner, North Western District, who unfortunately, owing to his carriers running away, arrived with only a portion of the exhibits. These were not entered for prizes, but Captain Read reports that the ground-nuts, guinea corn, millet, rice, shea butter-nuts, shea butter, European vegetables and cotton compared favourably with those from Ashanti and the Colony, and would undoubtedly have taken prizes. Another effort will be made to raise more interest next year for the Kumasi Show, and this might be obtained by arranging to take as many chiefs as possible down to it, and persuading them to grow produce specially for it.

Technical Instruction.

47. Some money was voted in the Estimates for the introduction of a hand loom into the country with a view of making cloth of a wider width than the present somewhat primitive native loom produces, but it is greatly to be regretted that it has not so far been attended with success.

48. In the first case the looms were sent out with certain parts deficient, and though there is no doubt the native will be able to learn its use in time, the looms are somewhat complicated and require a professional instructor to educate the natives in their use.

49. One District Commissioner spent considerable time when on leave learning the use of the loom, but he has left the Protectorate, and during the short time he was in the country, he found it impossible to give the necessary time to teach the natives.

50. It will be necessary to have an instructor out and to instruct selected youths; the older men engaged in the weaving trade are too conservative to take much interest in it, or leave their old native pattern looms.

TRADE.

51. The increase in trade that took place in 1906 has been fully maintained, and very much less trade goods have been brought in from Togoland than in the previous year, and the bulk now comes from Kumasi.

52. From information derived from the French Officers, however, it would appear that the reverse holds good in their country and German goods of an inferior quality are flooding the markets of the Upper Niger where formerly English goods from Kumasi were to be seen.

53. The big markets of Salaga and Gambaga are carefully watched, but the revenue from the 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty charged has fallen considerably this year.

54. Recent tours show that silver coinage with 3d. as the smallest coin was not popular, and cowries alone are accepted in many parts.

55. In connetion with this question of currency it must be remembered that traders pass through the Protectorate from every part of Northern Africa in order to obtain kola-nut, and if nickel coinage is ciculated in Kano and Sokoto it will find its way here, and it might be well worth consideration to introduce a small coin that will be accepted as currency in both countries.

56. The great demand is for looking-glasses, combs, beads of superior quality, better brass rods than are at present being sold in Kumasi, good pieces of coloured silk and velvet, cloth and calico printed both sides, enamelled and brass basins, needles, reels of cotton sewing machines, fish hooks, handkerchiefs, enamel ware, antimony, brass nails, cutlasses, hand hoes, knives, pipes, and matches.

57. There is a growing disposition on the part of the natives to sell their local cattle. There is no comparison for purposes of food between the cattle of Dagomba, on the east, and the

enormous herds in Lobi, Dagarti, and Grunshi, on the west, and the coarse hump-backed cattle that the caravans bring down from Moshi.

58. A cattle fair was to have been held in Tumu, for a week, as an experiment, and traders were coming from Kumasi specially to buy. Unfortunately the Medical Officers were obliged to forbid the gathering of so many people owing to the outbreak of cerebro-spinal meningitis, but an attempt will be made to hold it later.

59. Salt and kola still form the basis of the up trade and shea-butter of the down trade, but an enormous amount of the latter is unpicked annually. The country is eminently suited for cotton-growing, and the only thing required is a market for both that and the shea-butter-nuts.

60. Excellent vine rubber has been found in the North Western part of the Protectorate called Pempemeh (Apocynaceous vine), but exists in small quantities.

61. Other products under examination at the present moment are fibre, tobacco, copal, and wood oil.

62. Caravanserais have been built at all the resting places on the main trade roads near water, consisting of a circular wall, inside which the caravans can put their cattle at night, and six or eight huts at each place.

Taxation.

63. No taxes exist in the country with the exception of the Caravan Tax, which forms the main revenue of the Northern Territories.

Revenue.

64. The revenue from all sources during the year under review amounted to £18,046 19*s.* 6*d.*, being an increase of £3,942 12*s.* 3*d.* compared with the previous year.

65. This increase of revenue is due entirely to the increased trade coming to the country as shown by the Caravan Tax returns. Owing to the new stations at Lorha, Tumu, and Navarro, and the consequent improved state of the country in these districts, so many more markets, where formerly Hausa traders feared to go with their goods, have been opened to trade.

Crime.

66. The returns show an increase of crime in the protectorate, but this is mainly due to the increase in administrative centres, and to the fact that the natives are bringing in their complaints much more freely than they used to.

Health.

67. I regret that during the year under review the health has not been so good as formerly. Rain came late and in

very uncertain quantities, much delaying the harvest, and in some cases rendering a second planting necessary.

68. Five cases of black-water fever occurred amongst Europeans, one at Tamale, and one at Salaga. These patients were invalided, it being the second attack in one case. The other cases occurred at Navarro and Gambaga. One proved fatal, but both the others were able to continue their work after recovery and completed their tour.

69. A great deal of fever existed at Gambaga; and it was a disastrous year for horses, many dying, some quite suddenly. A poisonous tulip growing amongst the grass is the cause of some deaths, and the others tsetse fly.

An epidemic of cerebro-spinal meningitis swept over the North Western part of the country, and over 10,000 deaths must have occurred in the Grunshi, Dagarti, and Lobi country, whole families dying in a single day.

70. A report by the Senior Medical Officer is attached.

Ordinances.

71. The following Ordinance was passed during he year:—

No. 1. An Ordinance to amend "The Fugitive Criminals Surrender Ordinance," 9th October, 1907.

A. E. Watherston, Lieut.-Colonel,
Chief Commissioner,
Northern Territories.

Comparative Statement of Revenue collected in the Northern Territories (Gold Coast), 1906 and 1907.

Source of Revenue.	1906.			1907.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Customs Duties	131	4	3	41	1	9
Caravan Taxes	11,803	8	0	15,851	2	0
Slaughter Taxes ... ... } Stall Holders' Fees ... ... }	570	14	6	470	7	6
Court Fines, &c.	319	14	8	422	12	9
Sale of Provisions, Medical Stores, &c.	893	13	1	1,069	2	10
Sale of Live Stock	76	12	6	39	3	9
Sale of Stamps	98	2	9	30	3	7
Ferry Dues	25	2	3	21	15	3
Shooting Licences	27	0	0	30	1	0
Trade Goods	61	10	0	—		
Miscellaneous	97	5	5	71	9	3
Total	14,104	7	5	18,046	19	8

Increases	£4,329	2	10
Decreases	386	10	7
Total Increase ...	£3,942	12	3

COMPARATIVE TABLE.

Comparative Table showing the number of Offences, Apprehensions, Convictions and Acquittals for 1906 *and* 1907.

—	1906.	1907.
The number of offences reported to the Police	325	402
The number of persons apprehended by the Police or summoned before the Magistrates.	325	402
The number of summary convictions :—		
1. For offences against the person	118	86
2. For slave dealing	27	6
3. For offences against property, other than prædial larceny.	66	69
4. For other offences	41	132
The number of convictions in the Superior Courts :—		
1. For offences against the person	8	9
2. For slave dealing	—	4
3. For offences against property, other than prædial larceny.	23	29
4. For other offences	30	52
The number of persons acquitted :—		
1. In the inferior Courts	13	10
2. In the Superior Courts	9	5

A. E. WATHERSTON, Lieut.-Colonel,
Chief Commissioner,
Northern Territories.

MEDICAL REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1907.

General Health.

The year 1907 has been remarkable for the large increase in the number of cases of black-water fever. Five cases occurred during the year with one death, two being invalided to England, and the remaining two completed their tour of service.

The number of European officials actually placed on the sick list was 67, as compared with 101 during the year 1906, the population being practically the same.

No case of bilious remittent fever occurred throughout the Northern Territories, and I consider the attacks of malarial fevers were of a mild and a shorter duration than in previous years.

The first case of enteric fever which has occurred in the Northern Territories since the occupation 11 years ago, was reported at the early part of the year under review.

The official is supposed to have contracted the disease through drinking unboiled milk on his way up country, and after 119 days on the sick list, was invalided to Kumasi and thence home.

The following table shows the comparative health of the stations in the Northern Territories for the year, and includes all officials placed on the sick list:—

Station.	Strength.	Number placed on sick list.	Average number of days.	Invalided.	Died.
Gambaga ...	5·65	27	9·62	1	—
Navarro ...	1·0	5	7·8	—	1
Tumu	1·7	7	2·8	—	—
Lorha	1·3	1	3·0	—	—
Wa	2·07	8	2·37	—	—
Bole	1·7	2	5·00	—	—
Salaga and Yeji	3·9	10	6·8	1	—
Tamale	1·5	7	3·8	1	—
	19·22	67	4·71	3	1

Officials suffered chiefly from remittent fever and intermittent fever (31 and 12 cases respectively), and three officials were invalided from enteric fever and black-water fever as compared with five in 1906.

Native Official.

The health of the native staff was most satisfactory throughout the year, one clerk was invalided and no death occurred.

The average number of days on the sick list for the year was 5·48.

Native Troops.

The health was good during 1907, and I am glad to be able to report that no death from cerebro-spinal meningitis occurred amongst the men of the Gold Coast Regiment or Northern Territories Constabulary.

Townpeople.

It is satisfactory to learn that the natives are seeking medical and surgical treatment in increasing numbers.

The principal diseases for which they apply for relief are, ulcers of a very severe and obstinate type, guinea worm, bronchial catarrh during the Harmattan season, craw craw, and constipation.

Epidemics.

The number of cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis which occurred was much less than in the previous years, and the disease was more confined to the North Western District, no cases being reported from any of the other districts in the Protectorate.

During the month of September it was reported that a number of deaths had taken place at a place Brumassi, in the Gonja District, and lying two days' march west of Salaga. Two Medical Officers were sent to investigate the disease, and Dr. Gush after making some experiments and careful inquiries came to the conclusion that the disease was anthrax.

Sanitation.

It is satisfactory to note that on the whole the sanitary condition of all the stations in the Northern Territories shows improvement; it is difficult from a sanitary point to deal with some of the new stations which have only been formed since the beginning of the year and for months have been without a Medical Officer.

The European quarters have been kept clean and in good condition.

Water.

The water at some of the stations is at present unsatisfactory, especially during the dry season.

I hope to see this remedied shortly by the sinking of good wells, which should be rendered mosquito proof.

Gardens.

Nearly all the stations have gardens, which are looked after by the Medical Officers of the station, and except for a couple of months during the dry season a fair supply of vegetables can always be obtained. At Gambaga and Tamale larger gardens exist, which are able to supply vegetables throughout the year.

The chief things grown are: tomatoes, French beans, garden eggs, carrots, cucumbers, kohl rabi.

This year bananas and pawpaw have been a great success in Gambaga.

At Gambaga the supply has been so large that I have been able to give the native clerks, for several months, some of the above-named fruits.

Meteorological.

The rainfall for 1907 was four inches less than the average for the last six years, and occurred much later than usual.

The Harmattan blew strongly during the first two months of the year and caused a good deal of bronchial trouble.

Guinea worm, as usual, was prevalent during the rainy months.

I attach a list with rainfall from 1902 to 1907.

H. Tweedy,
Senior Medical Officer,
Northern Territories.

31st January, 1908.

Table of Rainfall from 1902 *to* 1907 *at Gambaga.*

Months.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	Remarks.
	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	
January	—	—	—	—	—	—	
February	20·	—	—	—	—	—	
March	—	—	·16	·09	·15	1·21	
April	2·02	2·95	1·74	3·94	2·66	2·64	
May	5·63	5·65	6·65	4·61	6·07	4·06	
June...	4·79	·16	3·19	5·47	6·66	5·68	
July...	6·36	4·60	10·01	9·83	3·88	2·87	
August	9·40	11·75	7·25	15·13	10·27	9·63	
September	5·12	14·57	7·97	11·43	8·06	9·19	
October	3·83	1·17	3·09	4·86	5·18	3·22	
November	·45	·30	—	·35	—	·67	
December	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Totals ...	37·80	41·30	40·06	75·71	42·93	39·17	

APPENDIX.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES CONSTABULARY.

Annual Report for the Year 1907.

Organisation.

1. The Northern Territories Constabulary was formed on the 1st January, 1907, owing to the disbandment of the 2nd Battalion Gold Coast Regiment (West African Frontier Force) on the 31st December, 1906.

All its members had served in the disbanded battalion, and its strength is as follows:—

1 Commandant.
1 Assistant Commandant.
1 Regimental Sergeant Major
1 Native Armourer Sergeant.
11 Sergeants.
9 Corporals.
22 Lance-Corporals.
270 Constables.
1 Drummer.
1 Quartermaster Sergeant.
1 Orderly Room Sergeant.
1 Paymaster's Clerk.
1 Tailor.
Total 2 Officers and 319 other ranks.

Distribution.

2. The force contains 66 mounted men, and is distributed at the following stations: Gambaga, Wa, Navarro, Bole, Lorha, Tumu, Tamale, Salaga, and Yeji.

On the 1st November, 1907, Yeji ceased to be an independent station for the force, and the non-commissioned officers and men were distributed between Salaga and Tamale.

Discipline.

3. The behaviour of the men generally has been very good during the year. There were only three desertions.

Recruiting.

4. Fourteen recruits were enlisted, and nine of them passed into the ranks as trained constables during the year.

Eleven men were re-enlisted, having been discharged soldiers of good character from the late 2nd Battalion Gold Coast Regiment.

Five men were re-engaged into the force from the Gold Coast Regiment.

Clothing and Equipment.

5. The new blue uniform for the force not having arrived during the year, all ranks received khaki clothing from the surplus stock remaining of the late 2nd Battalion Gold Coast Regiment.

There is no change in the equipment, it having been taken over from the late disbanded battalion, and is almost all part-worn.

Arms and Ammunition.

6. The arms were retained by the men on formation of the force, and every precaution was taken to ensure that all arms, ammunition, and equipment on charge at head-quarters and at the out-stations were properly looked after.

Command.

7. During the year under review the force was commanded by Lieutenant C. J. Elkan, Assistant Commandant from the 1st January until the 14th June, and from the 15th June until the end of the year by Captain J. Marlow, Commandant.

Remarks.

8. Owing to the difficulty of relieving me, I was unable to make an inspection of all the out-stations; the following only were inspected by me: Yeji, Salaga, Tamale, Navarro, and Gambaga (head-quarters).

At each inspection the men turned out clean and smart, and their arms and equipment in serviceable condition.

They were very steady on parade and well acquainted with their drill.

They appear to have been well looked after by the District Commissioners at the various stations.

J. Marlow, Captain,
Commandant,
Northern Territories Constabulary.

Gambaga,
21st January, 1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
533	Weihaiwei	1906
534	Gold Coast	"
535	Malta	1906–1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906–1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits Settlements...	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906–1907
543	Bahamas	"
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica	1906–1907
550	British Guiana	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"
552	British Honduras	1906
553	St. Lucia	1906–1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906–1907
556	Basutoland	"
557	East Africa Protectorate	"
558	Uganda Protectorate	"
559	Swaziland	"
560	St. Helena	1907
561	Ceylon	"
562	Falkland Islands	"
563	Gibraltar	"
564	Ashanti	"
565	Colonial Survey Committee	1907–1908

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
45	East Africa Protectorate	Geology.
46	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey (1904–5).
47	Do. do.	Do. (1905–6).
48	Nyasaland Protectorate	Do. (1906–7).
49	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies, &c.	Cotton Cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa...	Native Education.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, Ltd., 34-40, Bacon Street, E.

1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 602.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1908.

(For Report for 1907, *see* No. 566.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
July, 1909.

LONDON:
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1909.

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
ADMINISTRATION	5
PUBLIC WORKS	6
EDUCATION	6
LABOUR SUPPLY	7
COOMASSIE SHOW	7
TRADE	7
AGRICULTURE	8
ROADS	9
MISSIONS AND RELIGION	10
CRIME	10
PRISONS	11
REST HOUSES	11
REVENUE...	11
HEALTH	11
LEGISLATION	11
CONSTABULARY	12
CONCLUSION	12

APPENDICES.

TABLES	13
MEDICAL REPORT	14

No. 602.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

(For Report for 1907, *see* No. 566.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House.
Accra,
27 May, 1909.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, the Annual Report on the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast for the year 1908.

2. Political.—The good relations with neighbouring foreign dependencies have been maintained, and in several instances fugitive offenders have been brought to justice by the mutual co-operation of the Administrations concerned.

3. Administration.—The removal of the headquarters of the Protectorate from Gambaga to a more central situation at Tamale was successfully undertaken during the year. Telegraphic communication has been established between Accra and Tamale, and the line is now being extended to Gambaga.

The policy of governing the natives through their hereditary chiefs has been maintained and extended; and though, as Colonel Watherston reports, many of these chiefs are weak and incapable of any sustained effort, the moral and executive support of the Government should gradually increase their influence and administrative ability.

4. Finance.—The abolition of the caravan tolls in the month of September is mainly responsible for a decrease of £7,151 in the revenue of the Protectorate during the year under review. In the current year the estimated revenue is only £1,400, as against an estimated expenditure of £72,423. The administration of this dependency is therefore a heavy drain on the financial resources of the Gold Coast Colony, and it will probably be necessary to consider, in the near future, means for

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putting the finances of the Northern Territories on a sounder basis.

5. Education.—The Government Primary School at Tamale was opened early in 1909, when 28 pupils were enrolled. The formation of the boys' brigades referred to in paragraph 11 of the Report is an interesting experiment which deserves encouragement. A number of intelligent boys selected from various tribes in the Protectorate have been sent to the Cape Coast Government School for preliminary instruction; they will be transferred to the new Technical School at Accra as soon as that institution is ready to receive them.

6. Agriculture.—The Chief Commissioner reports that there is a large tract of country in which the shea butter tree flourishes, between Tamale and Gambaga. Trade in this product is, however, unlikely to expand until transport is made quicker and cheaper by the completion of the main road, now under construction, between Coomassie and Tamale.

Samples of indigenous cotton grown in the Northern Territories have been submitted to, and favourably reported on, by the Director of the Imperial Institute; but the absence of cheap transport to the coast from these distant markets hinders the profitable development of this industry.

A Curator of the Agricultural Department has proceeded to Tamale to lay out the experimental station for which provision has been made in the current Estimates.

The attempt to improve the local breed of cattle by the importation of Aberdeen Argus bulls has unfortunately been frustrated by the death of these animals, which were exhibited at the Agricultural Show held at Coomassie in December last year. I propose to consult the Government Veterinary Surgeon, who is expected shortly to take up his appointment, before sanctioning further expenditure on the importation of foreign stock.

7. In conclusion, I have much pleasure in bringing to Your Lordship's notice the good work done in the period under review by Colonel Watherston and his assistants. The Protectorate has been effectively administered by enlisting the co-operation of the chiefs, without resort to arms. Satisfactory progress has been made in the programme of Public Works Extraordinary; several good minor roads have been laid out and partially constructed, and work was commenced on the main road, 260 miles in length, which is destined to link up the terminus of the railway at Coomassie with the headquarters of the Protectorate at Tamale.

I have, &c.,

H. BRYAN,

Acting Governor.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Crewe, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR THE YEAR 1908.

1. Nothing of any importance has occurred in our relations with the foreign Powers whose boundaries are contiguous to our own. We give and receive every assistance in the capturing of looters and marauders, and since the break up of the big gang in 1907 there have been comparatively few complaints.

ADMINISTRATION.

2. During the year the headquarters were removed from Gambaga to Tamale. The Chief Commissioner's Office and Treasury were transferred there at the commencement of the year, and later in June the headquarters of the Constabulary were removed there, leaving a detachment of Constabulary at Gambaga and one company of the Gold Coast Regiment.

3. On the 12th April the station was formally opened, and a very large gathering of chiefs took place. The value of these big gatherings of chiefs cannot be underestimated in a country where so little intercourse, except fighting, has taken place in the past. Small chiefs return with a heightened idea of their importance, and never before have the relations existing between the chiefs all over the country been better.

4. The only wild parts that exist now, viz.: the Lobi Dagarti and the Sapari Hill country, are gradually, though slowly, coming under control; and it is expected that the projected removal of the company of the Regiment into the Sapari district will do much to increase better relations with these latter tribes, and the appointment of a District Commissioner to travel continuously through the Dagarti country will have the same effect in that part of the Protectorate.

5. As much power as possible is placed in the hands of chiefs and they are in some cases beginning to develop some administrative ability, but as a whole they are a weak class, and it is to the next generation we shall have to look for anything like the ideal local Government that we hope to produce here. If their efforts are not followed by immediate and successful returns they are apt to give up any experiment in agriculture or commerce. They are extremely slow to take up any new suggestion.

6. Great progress has been made in the civilization of the Lobi district, due to the energy and tact of Major Walker-Leigh and Lieutenant Jackson, and there is no doubt that a big trade development will eventually take place in this thickly populated district. To build up a native administration in a country where the various towns, though speaking the same language, have for ages done nothing but fight with each other is a most difficult thing to bring about, but very favourable progress in that direction has been made during the year.

Public Works.

7. The main work during the year has been the making of the new headquarters at Tamale. The following buildings were completed:—

Treasury office and vault.
Main guard-room.
General store.
Constabulary office and store.
Master-tailor's shop.
Double bungalow.
Constable lines and stables.

8. Considerable progress was made with the Chief Commissioner's house, and the water supply to Europeans and natives improved.

A caravanserai was erected for passing caravans, which has been much appreciated, and is in constant use. Permanent buildings for a market have been erected.

A temporary hospital and isolated huts were also built.

9. At outstations some excellent houses of burnt brick have been erected by Commissioners and medical officers, who probably never built a house before. They reflect much credit on the builders, as they were without expert advice and only had a minimum of skilled labour; the houses will last for years.

10. The following were erected during the year:—

Wa.—One European quarter rebuilt. Prison cells built in the fort.

Lorha.—Two European quarters built.

Navarro.—Two European quarters built and the previous building converted to Court House and Commissioner's office.

Salaga.—A medical officer's house built was destroyed in April by an exceptionally severe tornado and rebuilt again.

Bole.—European quarters completed.

Education.

11. An attempt has been made to get at the younger generation of natives by forming boys' brigades for daily physical drill and instruction in English in all administrative centres with a view of drafting the more intelligent boys into the Government Schools at Tamale, which are to be started in 1909. It has been attended with much success in the eastern part of the Protectorate.

12. The White Fathers have made considerable progress in their school at Navarro, and the boys attending were found to have an intelligent knowledge of English, and several are being taught carpentering and other trades.

13. Apprentices have been appointed to learn trades under the skilled workmen engaged in making the new headquarters at Tamale, and have shown aptitude as carpenters and stonemasons.

Labour Supply.

14. Local labour is becoming easier to obtain, and the people are, without doubt, beginning to feel a desire to earn money. If properly treated a large supply can be obtained for the mines from the thickly populated districts in the north.

Coomassie Show.

15. One of the most interesting events that have taken place in the Protectorate was the visit of a large number of chiefs at the end of the year to the Agricultural Show at Coomassie.

The fear of the Ashanti which has been such a dominant feature in the life of the people of the Protectorate for so many years made it extremely difficult to persuade the chiefs to make the long journey down, and the boisterous welcome given them on their return showed with what fear their people looked on the visit.

16. Altogether 88 chiefs with over 1,000 followers accomplished the long journey of several weeks, and it is difficult to realize the effects on civilization and trade that the visit will have in the Protectorate.

17. They took with them a large number of exhibits, and received a fair share of the prizes. This would have been considerably larger had the date for the Show been later, as at the time they left their country the crops were barely ripe, and the annual crop of cotton which they had all been spending much trouble on was not ready for picking.

18. The journey there and back, including a visit by train to the mines of the Ashanti Gold Fields, will have a lasting effect on all who took part in it, and the sight of a town like Coomassie, with its buildings and streets, made a very great impression on them, accustomed as they are to very scattered townships.

Trade.

19. During the year some European merchants have for the first time settled in the country, opening stores at Tamale and Gambaga. They have expressed themselves as satisfied with the prospects of trade development in those places, and propose to open also in Salaga.

20. The abolition of the caravan tolls is the most important thing done in the Protectorate during the year under review. The revenue produced by these tolls in 1906 amounted to £11,802, and in 1907 to £15,852, and it was expected that the return in 1908 would have reached £15,500. These tolls were abolished on the 1st September, up to which date £9,294 had been collected, but the last four months of the year are those in which usually the largest returns have been received.

21. The general effect of the abolition of the caravan tolls should be to attract a very much larger trade to this country

from the French Sudan which at present divides itself between Togoland markets and Coomassie.

22. The internal trade of the Protectorate is developing rapidly. Markets with permanent Hausa traders in them are growing up in towns which a few years ago were considered unsafe even to go to, owing to the probability of having their loads looted from them *en route*. On the main trade routes the increasing size and number of the Zongos, which exist to supply caravans with food, all point to the increasing trade which is passing through the Protectorate.

23. With this increase in trade, which has been repeatedly brought to their notice in previous Annual Reports, it appears extraordinary that no representatives of any firms in Coomassie have as yet visited the country to see the kind and class of article that is popular with, and obtains a ready sale amongst, the natives.

24. Every effort is made to see that the duty, *ad valorem*, is paid on goods brought from Togoland, but the markets are full of them, and cheap and tawdry as many of the things are it is evident that they find a ready sale.

25. The European firm mentioned as having opened in the country does not deal with Coomassie, but buys in Addah and uses the River Volta as a means of transport.

26. The formation of a town on the River Volta at Tamale Port will enable goods to be landed by canoe, and will certainly effect the transfer of the main salt-distributing trade from Daboya, where it is at present, to Tamale.

At the latter place, it should be possible to sell salt at 2*s*. a bag less than at Daboya, owing to the saving of time by river. This alone will add to the increasing size and importance of the Tamale market.

Agriculture.

27. The main products at present in the Protectorate are cotton and shea butter, a little rubber of good quality in the north-western part, and fibre from the "hibiscus" can be found all over the country.

28. The cotton has been well reported on, and efforts are being made to induce the natives to improve it, and take more interest in its production, and it is confidently anticipated that a very large area could be placed under cotton cultivation with advantageous results.

In connection with this a meeting was held at Manchester in October, with the British Cotton Growing Association, and samples of cotton grown in the Dagomba country were inspected; and it was decided to send an expert early in 1909 to make a thorough investigation as to the suitability of growing cotton near Tamale on a very large scale, and utilizing the river as a means of transport to the coast.

29. The forests between Tamale and Gambaga are filled with shea butter trees, and this trade could, at present prices in Coomassie, be made an extremely valuable one.

30. Sanction has been obtained to form an agricultural station at Tamale, and it is hoped that at an early date an agricultural expert will arrive to experiment and instruct the natives how they can improve their present crops.

31. Maize, guinea-corn, millet, and ground-nuts produce heavy crops and form the staple food of the country.

32. The cattle of the country are small in size but of much better quality as food than the heavy Moshi cattle which are imported in such large quantities for sale in Coomassie. An attempt was made, at the end of the year, to improve the breed by importing some Aberdeen Angus bulls. Four were purchased, and unfortunately all died on the road up from Coomassie. In the event of future experiments in this line it would be better to bring the cattle up in April or May when the heat is not so great, and the new grass is beginning to come up, but it is to be feared that the tsetse fly was the principal cause of death. If the experiment be given another trial in 1909, it will be essential that a European superintends their journey up country.

33. A very large number of local cattle were taken down to the Coomassie Show by the people who attended it, and, the market being flooded, the prices realized were small, and it is to be feared that the development of a trade in local cattle received a temporary check.

Roads.

34. Considerable attention has been paid to roads during the year, and sanction was obtained for the making of a Trunk Road to connect Coomassie with Tamale, viâ Yeji and Salaga, with a view of motor traffic being used on it, and possibly later on some form of mono-rail.

35. In laying out the roads in the Protectorate the main idea kept in view has been to make Tamale the centre of the distributing trade of the Protectorate.

36. A good temporary road has been made to Yeji, which will be further improved by the construction party at present making the Trunk Road.

37. A site has been selected on the River Volta, and a town, to be called Tamale Port, has been laid out with a view of utilizing the river for a great deal of the transport for Tamale, and, if possible, to divert the salt trade distributing centre from Daboya, where, owing to unhealthiness, it is not possible to put a European to supervise the most important trade in the Protectorate next to kola.

38. The road to Tamale Port is 27 miles in length, and carts drawn by horses or donkeys can proceed there.

The water is deep and contained by high banks, and the saving in transport to Daboya is six days by river, whilst by land it take one and a half days from Daboya to Tamale, which will make little difference to the Moshi trader if he can buy his salt a little cheaper in Tamale.

39. A 16-ft. road is in course of construction to Gambaga viâ Savelugu and Nasia, and will no doubt in time be completed with the same thoroughness of the Trunk Road.

40. The other roads out of Tamale laid out and in some cases commenced are:—

(*a*) One to Daboya thence to Wa.
(*b*) One to Kunbungu viâ Singa to Yagaba.
(*c*) One to Sang and on to the German frontier near Yendi.

41. All these roads are to be formed and cleared of all roots, the chiefs henceforth being paid only for roads of this sort.

42. In the other Provinces work is going on the same lines.

North-Western.—
(*a*) Wa to Lorha, is completed.
(*b*) Wa to Tumu, considerable progress made.
(*c*) Lorha to Tumu, in course of construction.

North-Eastern.—
(*d*) Gambaga to Navarro, in course of construction through the Sapari Hills.
(*e*) Gambaga to Bawku, in course of construction.

43. Carts are in use at Tamale and Wa, and in a short time will be available for use over all the above-mentioned roads.

44. Another road of considerable importance to trade is that leading from Krachi to Yeji, but being over uninhabited country some difficulty is being experienced in getting natives to settle on it, and keep it clean. Added to which are many natural difficulties to overcome before it can become a useful road at all times of the year.

Missions and Religion.

45. In towns where Mahommedans are settled substantial mosques have been built, but as far as is known no missionaries from Senoussi or other parts have come to the country during the year. The movement reported some three years ago appears to have died out, and very little remains of it amongst the Pagan tribes in the north.

46. The White Fathers have a station at Navarro, and having at last mastered the language have begun to make some small progress; and a fairly large number of natives attend mass daily.

47. No other religious denominations have as yet settled in the country, but Tamale presents a very likely field for any society who would combine technical instruction with religion.

Crime.

48. The returns show an increase of crime generally but a decrease in the more serious ones of slavery and offences against the person, and the increase in smaller offences can be attributed to the fact that with the increase of confidence among the natives and the opening of new administrative stations many more cases are brought to the local Courts than formerly.

Prisons.

49. A prison has been commenced at Tamale, and will be fitted with carpenters', tailors', and blacksmiths' shops, and long-sentence prisoners will in the future be kept there, instead of being sent to Sekondi.

Rest Houses.

50. There is not a town now of any importance in the Protectorate that has not a Rest House erected for Europeans. They are situated some little distance from the native compounds, and consist of three circular huts, about 25 feet in diameter, a baggage-room, a kitchen, a boys' room, and an outhouse. They are kept in repair by the chiefs, the majority of whom take a personal pride in their particular houses.

Revenue.

51. The revenue from all sources during the year under review was £10,938 12*s.* 9*d.*, a decrease of £7,151 5*s.* 6*d.* compared with the previous year. This decrease is due to the abolition of the caravan tolls during the last four months of the year, and to a change in the system under which officials were allowed to purchase Government rations.

Health.

52. The health of the Europeans showed a great improvement on the previous year, and there was very little sickness amongst the native officials.

53. Cerebro-spinal meningitis again broke out in the Tumu and Lorha districts during the dry season, but did not last so long as the previous year nor appear so fatal

54. Dr. Horn, an expert, was sent to the country especially affected to study this disease, and a paper was read to the Medical Society in London in October on the result of his observations and researches.

55. Sanitation generally and the necessity of burning rubbish daily is being forced on the natives by the Commissioners and Medical Officers, and they are without doubt beginning to realize the better health that follows their efforts to keep their towns clean.

56. A medical report drawn up by the Senior Medical Officer is attached.

Legislation.

57. The following Ordinances affecting the Protectorate have been passed during the year:—

(i) An Ordinance for the further amendment of the Northern Territories Administration Ordinance, 1902.

(ii) An Ordinance to further amend the Northern Territories Administration Ordinance, 1902.

(iii) An Ordinance to make better provision with reference to Commissioners in the Protectorate.

(iv) An Ordinance to amend "The Northern Territories Constabulary Ordinance, 1906."

(v) An Ordinance to provide for the suppression of native customs which tend towards the commission of crime.

Constabulary.

58. The discipline and general conduct throughout the year have been excellent and there is a great improvement in the horses of the mounted constables, and much more care taken in looking after them. Recruits as far as possible are obtained from men who have taken their discharge from the Gold Coast Regiment.

Conclusion.

59. General progress has been going on all over the Protectorate. Many more towns come in with their complaints now, and all serious cases of riot or murder are at once reported.

60. It becomes rarer every year now to see men and women without some clothes on; and trade is increasing everywhere. The chiefs are beginning to assert themselves and, finding themselves backed up by the Commissioners, are becoming of more use and help to the Administration.

61. The credit of this is due to the really strenuous work and travel that the Provincial and District Commissioners put in during their tour of duty, and their loyal assistance in doing all in their power to further any scheme suggested for the improvement of our relations with the many tribes who, up to a few years ago, kept away from us more from fear than from any warlike or vicious motives.

A. E. Watherston,
Lieutenant-Colonel,
Chief Commissioner,
Northern Territories.

Tamale,
16th April, 1909.

APPENDICES.

COMPARATIVE TABLE.

Comparative Table showing the number of Offences, Apprehensions, Convictions and Acquittals for the last Four Years.

—	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.
The number of offences reported to the police ...	306	325	402	434
The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the Magistrates	306	325	402	434
The number of summary convictions :—				
1. For offences against the person	16	118	86	69
2. For slave-dealing	—	27	6	3
3. For offences against property, other than prædial larceny.	54	66	69	91
4. For other offences	113	41	132	221
The number of convictions in the Superior Courts:—				
1. For offences against the person	2	8	9	4
2. For slave-dealing	—	—	4	—
3. For offences against property, other than prædial larceny.	40	23	29	1
4. For other offences	17	30	52	1
The number of persons acquitted :—				
1. In the Inferior Courts...	26	13	10	20
2. In the Superior Courts	—	9	5	—

Comparative Statement of Revenue collected in the Northern Territories (Gold Coast), 1907 and 1908.

Source of Revenue.	1907.	1908.	Increase	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs	—	—	—	—
Licences, &c.	—	—	—	—
Fees of Court, &c. ...	—	—	—	—
Rents of Government lands.	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous other receipts.	—	—	—	—
Caravan tolls	15,852 9 9	9,293 13 6	—	6,558 16 3
Ferry tolls	21 15 3	20 14 0	—	1 1 3
Hunting licences ...	30 1 0	21 0 0	—	9 1 0
Court fines and fees ...	422 12 9	363 17 6	—	58 15 3
Market and slaughter-house fees.	470 7 6	423 8 6	—	46 19 0
Sale of live stock ...	39 3 9	26 16 6	—	12 7 3
Sale of provisions ...	1,061 8 5	550 11 7	—	510 16 10
Miscellaneous ...	66 6 5	58 10 11	—	7 15 6
Sale of stamps ...	125 13 5	180 0 3	54 6 10	—
Total	18,089 18 3	10,938 12 9	54 6 10	7,205 12 4

Increase	£54 6 10
Decrease	£7,205 12 4
Net Decrease	£7,151 5 6

MEDICAL REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1908.

General Health.

Europeans.

The health during the year 1908 showed a marked improvement on that of 1907.

No case of blackwater fever occurred throughout the Protectorate as against five in the year 1907. Two officials were invalided and no death took place as against three invalidings and one death in the preceding year.

Although the European population showed an increase, the actual number of officials placed on the sick list was one less than last year.

For a second year no case of bilious remittent fever has been reported in the Northern Territories, and the severest cases of malarial fevers occurring were in those officers who had only just arrived from the coast.

The following table shows the comparative health of the stations in the Northern Territories for the year, and includes all officials placed on the sick list:—

Station.	Average daily strength.	Number placed on sick list.	Average number of days on sick list.	Invalided.	Died.
Tamale	4·07	14	8·21	—	—
Gambaga ..	4·66	8	7·7	1	—
Navarro	2·04	8	4·12	—	—
Tumu	2·04	5	4·40	—	—
Lorha	2·11	3	5·66	—	—
Wa	2·28	7	8·71	1	—
Bole	2·04	8	6·33	—	—
Salaga	3·49	13	4·76	—	—
Totals ...	22·73	66	6 16	2	—

I also attach list of diseases from which officials suffered:—

Remittent Fever	30
Intermittent Fever	20
Jaundice	3
Appendicitis	1
Hepatitis	2
Herpes Zoster	1
Coryza	1
Gastro Enteritis	1
Injury to Knee	1
Debility	1
Neurasthenia	1
Diarrhœa	1

Phthisis	1
Circumcision	1
Dysentery	1
Total	66

Two officials were invalided from the following causes:—

Phthisis	1
Neurasthenia	1
Total	2

Native Officials.

The health of the native staff was most satisfactory, no native official dying or being invalided.

Total number placed on sick list, 17 as compared with 27 for the year 1907, and the average number of days on the sick list was considerably less than last year.

Native Troops.

This is the first year that an accurate record of the health of the Northern Territories Constabulary stationed throughout the Northern Territories has been kept, and I am glad again to be able to report that no case of cerebro-spinal meningitis occurred amongst the men of the Gold Coast Regiment or the Northern Territories Constabulary.

The following figures show comparative health of each station, where Northern Territories Constabulary or Gold Coast Regiment are stationed with number of deaths and invalidings:—

Month.	"I" Company Gold Coast Regiment.				Northern Territories Constabulary.			
	Average daily strength.	Average daily number on sick list.	Invalided.	Died.	Average daily strength.	Average daily number on sick list.	Invalided.	Died.
January ...	127·35	8·61	—	—	295·41	11·09	—	—
February ...	74·03	3·96	—	—	277·50	10·27	—	—
March ...	151·51	8·83	1	—	303·16	11·65	1	1
April ...	183·03	7·10	—	—	289·52	15·20	—	—
May ...	151·58	5·69	—	—	295·73	16·68	1	—
June ...	153·16	5·73	—	—	279·91	12·73	1	—
July ...	148·54	13·03	—	1	283·47	12·68	1	—
August ...	151·96	4·22	1	—	289·69	9·34	1	—
September...	156·06	5·16	—	—	291·12	8·21	—	1
October ...	157·64	8·80	—	—	253·22	12·77	1	—
November...	157·33	8·50	—	—	273·65	11·81	—	—
December ...	161·48	5·35	—	—	271·80	12·41	—	—

Townspeople.

The natives are now attending the out-patients' department of hospitals in the various stations in greatly increasing numbers; it is still very difficult to make them understand the benefit they derive from being taken as in-patients into hospital, as they dislike leaving their home and friends.

Epidemics.

There was a slight increase in the number of cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis in these Territories, the Tumu district suffering most severely from the outbreak, which only lasted a short time.

Small-pox in a mild form also broke out during the early part of the year, and a case at Wa occurred amongst the labourers returning from the mines in Ashanti.

Sanitation.

Great advance has been made in the sanitation of all the principal towns in the Northern Territories throughout the year, and the people are gradually beginning to see the good results that come from keeping their surroundings clean. European quarters have been kept in good condition.

Water.

The water supply at some of the stations is still unsatisfactory during certain seasons of the year, but a large sum of money has been placed in this year's Estimates to remedy these defects.

Gardens.

All the stations in the Northern Territories possess gardens, which give a good supply of vegetables throughout the year: the gardens in each station are looked after by the medical officer. The following are grown: tomatoes, French beans, garden eggs, carrots, cucumbers, radishes, endives, and kohl rabi.

Meteorological.

At present there are only two stations in the Northern Territories where meteorological records are kept; in Gambaga the rainfall was 33·66 inches, or 10 inches less than the average for the last 6 years; at Tamale the rainfall amounted to 39·30 inches, this being the first year that a complete record had been kept.

Staff.

The staff during the year comprised the following officers:—

Europeans.—Drs. E. H. Tweedy and J. B. H. Davson, Senior Medical Officers; Drs. H. B. S. Montgomery, P. M. Tobit, John Lunn, W. W. Claridge, C. D. H. Ralph, F. Mayer,

Richard Cope, J. S. McDouall, A. B. Tighe, W. M. Wade, F. H. Storey, H. W. Gush, J. M. O'Brien, A. W. Atkinson, and H. O'H. May, Medical Officers. Dr. A. E. Horn, Medical Officer, was also in the Northern Territories on special duty.

Natives.—Mr. F. W. Cochrane Wulff, 3rd Class Dispenser, promoted Storekeeper since the beginning of the year. Mr. T. P. Bartels, Mr. C. B. Botchey, Mr. Thomas Asino, 1st Class Dressers, and Mr. Francis Quacoe, 2nd Class Dresser.

H. TWEEDY,

Senior Medical Officer,
Northern Territories.

26th February, 1909.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
568	Bermuda	1907
569	Weihaiwei	"
570	Hong Kong	"
571	Malta	1907–1908
572	British Honduras	1907
573	Gold Coast	"
574	Nyasaland Protectorate	1907–1908
575	Bahamas	"
576	Gambia	1907
577	St. Vincent	1907–1908
578	Turks and Caicos Islands	1907
579	St. Lucia	"
580	Fiji	"
581	Mauritius	"
582	Straits Settlements	"
583	Southern Nigeria	"
584	Imperial Institute	1906–1907
585	Barbados	1907–1908
586	Somaliland Protectorate	"
587	Trinidad and Tobago	"
588	Sierra Leone	1907
589	British Guiana	1907–1908
590	Grenada	1907
591	Leeward Islands	1907–1908
592	East Africa Protectorate	"
593	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
594	Northern Nigeria	"
595	Basutoland	"
596	Swaziland	"
597	St. Helena	1908
598	Gibraltar	"
599	Falkland Islands	"
600	Uganda	1907–1908
601	Imperial Institute	1908

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907–8.
54	Newfoundland	Governor's Visit to the Micmac Indians.
55	Cape Colony	Rietfontein Area.
56	Turks Islands	Salt Industry.
57	Uganda	Governor's Tour.
58	British Colonies	Fibres.
59	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1906–7.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 639.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1909.

(For Report for 1908, *see* No. 602.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
July, 1910.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, Ltd., 34-40, Bacon Street, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN and SONS, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and
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OLIVER & BOYD, Tweeddale Court, Edinburgh; or
E. PONSONBY, Ltd., 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

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[Cd. 4964-13.] *Price* 1½*d.*

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
I. Financial	5
II. Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	7
III. Legislation	10
IV. Education	10
V. Government Institutions	11
VI. Judicial Statistics	11
VII. Vital Statistics	12
VIII. Postal, Telegraph, and Telephone Services...	14
IX. Religion...	14
X. General Observations	15

No. 639.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

(For Report for 1908, *see* No. 602.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Accra,
23rd May, 1910.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, the Annual Report on the Northern Territories for the year 1909.

2. The decreased revenue collected locally is solely due to the abolition of caravan tolls; and it is hoped that this will be more than compensated for by the increased importation of trade goods, on which duties are paid on the coast and to which reference is made by Major Irvine on page 6* of his Report.

3. The principal exports from this Protectorate, most of which is open country, are cattle, sheep, goats, and ponies. Efforts have been made to improve the breed of cattle, and the Veterinary Surgeon spent some time, at Tamale and elsewhere, in explaining the principles of selection to native chiefs. An experiment with polled Angus bulls proved unsuccessful, as the animals died shortly after their arrival; but further experiments will be made with either shorthorns or Herefords.

4. Agriculture has hitherto been carried on only on a small scale; but a Government Agricultural Station has now been established at Tamale, the capital of the Protectorate, and it will be placed in charge of a specially-selected Curator for the purpose of developing the cultivation of cotton.

Cotton of good quality has long been grown in the Northern Territories, but only for local use; and every endeavour will be made to develop the cultivation of this product on a large scale with a view to exportation by the Volta River.

5. A Government School was opened at Tamale during the year under review and has been well attended, while a few boys have been selected for training at the Accra Technical School and others are being trained in the workshops of the local Public Works Department.

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* Page 7 of this Report

(16846—2.) Wt. 27349—387. 1125 & 85. 7/10. D & S.

6. The police and other work of the constabulary was thoroughly satisfactory; and it is largely due to their efficiency that the Acting Chief Commissioner is able to write as follows with reference to crime in the Protectorate:—

"Murder, manslaughter, robbery with violence, kidnapping of children and slave-dealing, which were formerly prevalent, have decreased considerably within the past few years."

7. The general health of officials, both European and native, compares unfavourably with that of the previous year; and many sanitary improvements are required, including better accommodation at the out-stations.

On the other hand, a decided improvement is reported in the general health of natives as compared with 1908.

8. All the principal district stations, with the exception of Gambaga, to which a line is now being constructed, are connected by telegraph, and there is also telephonic connection between Tamale, Salaga, and Yegi.

9. The principal road under construction is that connecting Tamale with Coomassie, a distance of about 250 miles; but new roads are being constructed throughout the Protectorate in accordance with a general scheme of road development settled in 1908, and rest-houses have been erected along all these roads.

10. Several hundred labourers commenced work on mines in the Tarquah District of the Colony, but the experiment was not altogether satisfactory, owing to defective organisation.

With better organisation, however, and more efficient supervision, it is probable that the Northern Territories will prove to be a valuable recruiting ground for mining labourers.

11. With the exception of some trouble with wild tribes living near the Sapari Hills, there was no political disturbance of any description, and excellent relations were maintained between the European officials and native chiefs.

12. An otherwise prosperous year was saddened by the death of the Chief Commissioner, Lieutenant-Colonel Alan Watherston, R.E., C.M.G.

Colonel Watherston had been connected with the Colony and its Dependencies for a period of eleven years, first as chief British representative on the Anglo-French Boundary Commission, then as Director of Surveys, and lastly, in 1905, as Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories. In every capacity he performed excellent work, and his untimely death is a grave loss to the Government service, as well as to his very numerous personal friends. He was equally popular with Europeans and natives, and it will be most difficult adequately to replace him in the Protectorate.

I have, &c.,

JOHN RODGER,
Governor.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Crewe, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The total revenue collected in the Northern Territories during 1909 amounted to £1,689 10*s.* 1*d.*, being a decrease of £9,249 2*s.* 8*d.* compared with the previous year.

The following comparative statement gives the increase or decrease in the year's revenue under all heads compared with 1908:—

—	1908.	1909.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*	£ *s.* *d.*
Caravan tolls	9,293 13 6	—	—	9,293 13 6
Ferry tolls	20 14 0	—	—	20 14 0
Hunting licences ...	21 0 0	20 0 0	—	1 0 0
Court fines and fees ...	363 17 6	350 14 6	—	13 3 0
Market and slaughter house fees.	423 8 6	488 3 0	64 14 6	—
Sale of live stock ...	26 16 6	45 17 0	19 0 6	—
Sale of provisions ...	550 11 7	—	—	550 11 7
Sale of stamps	180 0 3	180 0 0	—	0 0 3
Miscellaneous	58 10 11	570 3 1	511 12 2	—
Spirit and wine licences	—	10 0 0	10 0 0	—
Rents from Government lands.	—	17 2 6	17 2 6	—
Wine and beer licences	—	17 10 0	17 10 0	—
Total	10,938 12 9	1,699 10 1	639 19 8	9,879 2 4

	£ *s.* *d.*
Decrease	9,879 2 4
Deduct increase	639 19 8
Net decrease	9,239 2 8

The decrease which appears under "Caravan Tolls" is due to the abolition of that tax from the 1st September, 1908.

The decrease under the head "Sale of Provisions" is due to the amount derived from that source being credited to "Miscellaneous."

The decrease under "Ferry Tolls" is due to the ferry at which tolls were collected in 1908 being declared free.

Besides the revenue referred to in paragraph 1, the sum of £56 4*s.* 11*d.* was collected from Customs duties.

This amount was collected solely on articles imported into the Protectorate from the neighbouring French and German Territories. The duties on all other imports were collected in the Colony and, possibly, in Ashanti.

I append hereunder a comparative statement showing expenditure charged in the year 1909 and the preceding year against the Protectorate under the various heads:—

—	1908.	1909.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Northern Territories (Head XXXII. of Estimates).	22,607 10 11	24,661 4 6	2,053 13 7	—
Treasury	487 2 9	429 11 8	—	57 11 1
Post and telegraphs	316 2 5	335 18 4	19 15 11	—
Post and telegraphs extraordinary.	—	1,752 8 10	1,752 8 10	—
Medical Department	4,717 13 10	2,676 10 0	—	2,041 3 10
Sanitation	12 0 0	94 18 7	82 18 7	—
Agriculture... ...	13 15 0	211 4 2	197 9 2	—
W.A.F.F. (proportionate cost).	5,604 0 0	5,189 0 0	—	415 0 0
N.T. constabulary...	10,321 0 0	10,940 4 1	618 19 1	—
Public works ...	396 0 5	297 18 4	—	98 2 1
Public works extraordinary.	5,786 7 6	3,469 11 5	—	2,316 16 1
Ashanti and N.T. Roads Department	—	1,998 10 0	1,998 10 0	—
Total ...	50,261 17 10	52,056 19 11	6,723 15 2	4,928 13 1

	£ s. d.
Increase	6,723 15 2
Deduct decrease	4,928 13 1
Net increase	1,795 2 1

The principal increases occurred under Ashanti and Northern Territories Roads Department and the Post and Telegraph Extraordinary votes. The latter expenditure was to meet the cost of telegraphic material necessary to extend the line from Tamale to Gambaga.

The decrease under Public Works Extraordinary is due to the cost of the Tamale-Coomassie trunk road and its supervision having been charged to a special head in the year under review, and partly to decrease of work on the new headquarters.

The subjoined is a statement of Revenue and Expenditure of the Administration for the past five years, viz.:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1905	13,414 18 2	4,372 15 8
1906	14,104 7 5	43,727 6 10
1907	18,089 18 3	54,064 9 2
1908	10,938 12 9	50,261 17 10
1909	1,689 10 1	52,056 19 11

The last grant-in-aid to the Northern Territories was paid by the Imperial Exchequer in 1907. The revenue recorded in that year or in previous years, as shown above, does not, however, include this grant.

There has been a fair demand for gold coins in exchange for our silver, especially on the part of Moshi traders proceeding to the interior.

British silver continues to increase greatly in circulation within the Protectorate. Formerly natives who brought produce into the markets were reluctant to take silver in payment, preferring cowries; now it is just the reverse, yet cowries still appear to retain their former value for the purchase of small articles of less value than a threepenny piece. Copper coins have been introduced, but so far with little success.

The following extract from a report by the Acting Commissioner of the North-Western Province is of interest in connection with this subject:—

"In Lobi, especially near the river, there has been a great change with regard to the popularity of silver. Formerly it was a common thing for Lobis to throw away their silver saying it was no use to them, but, owing to the French now refusing cowries in payment of their tax and insisting on silver, a large number of French Lobis came across to English country bringing cattle, sheep, and goats, which became absolutely a drug in the market—cattle going sometimes for 10*s*. and sheep and goats for 6*d*. and 1*s*. This had the effect of impressing on the English Lobis the value and use of silver, an impression which will probably be permanent."

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

The chief imports are cotton and woollen goods, kola-nuts, salt, hardware, beads, brass rods, haberdashery, and European provisions. The importation of rifles, breech-loading guns, cartridges, &c., for trade purposes is prohibited, as also is the importation of spirits, except for the use of Europeans. Flint-lock guns, gunpowder, and lead bars can now be introduced into the Protectorate in accordance with the regulations passed in November of the year under review.

The principal articles of export are live-stock, shea-butter, dried fish, dawa-dawa, and native produce generally, such as maize, yams, and fowls. A small quantity of ivory is also exported. The bulk of the live-stock exported comes from Moshi and other parts of the interior and is absorbed in Ashanti. In this connection it is gratifying to note that there is an increasing inclination on the part of the natives of the Protectorate to take their cattle to the Ashanti markets, and every facility is given by Commissioners to encourage the future development of this trade.

It is very difficult to obtain accurate statistics of either imports or exports, owing to the number of roads along which trade passes, not only in the Protectorate itself but also between it and Ashanti and the adjoining territories of France and Germany. However, from all the available statistics and the reports of Commissioners, there appears to have been a decided increase, throughout the Protectorate, under all heads of imports and exports during the year under review compared with the previous year; the only exception being in brass rods, which

showed a decrease. This decrease is to be accounted for by Moshi traders requiring more money than formerly with which to pay their taxes to the French Authorities.

It is worthy of note that there has been a marked decrease observed in the markets of Salaga and Tamale in the amount of German trade goods imported from Togoland, and a corresponding increase in those imported from the Colony and Ashanti. This is attributed to the careful supervision now exercised by the Preventive Service on the Daka and Volta Rivers.

Tamale Port, the new town laid out early in 1908, on the left bank of the River Volta opposite Yapie, has proved a great success. The bulk of salt, which formerly went to Daboya, is now sold there, to the advantage of the Tamale market and to trade generally. This town forms a good base for river-borne goods to or from Tamale, there being a good road along which carts, drawn by horses or donkeys, can be used for transport.

The opening of a permanent station at Bawku, at the beginning of the year, has given a great impetus to trade along the North-Eastern frontier. It is now one of the most important trading centres in the Protectorate as there has been a great influx of traders from Moshi and the Northern parts of Togoland. A large number of natives from outlying villages now attend the market, who, before our advent, rarely if ever visited it, for fear of being captured and sold as slaves.

The turnover of the European store, opened at Tamale in 1908, is reported as being at least 50 per cent. greater than that of the previous year. This store has not only been instrumental in creating a demand for European goods amongst the natives of Tamale and the surrounding villages, but has also been noticeably beneficial to trade in supplying goods to numbers of petty traders who formerly obtained their requirements in German Togoland.

It is reported that there is an increasing number of itinerant traders selling their wares in all the minor markets of the several districts which the settled state of the country and the facilities of good roads will steadily tend to augment in the near future.

Gold exists in the vicinity of Wa, Banda, and Bole; but so far no mining operations have taken place except for prospecting purposes.

The Northern Territories Mineral Rights Ordinance, No. 2, of 1904, clearly defines the procedure to be followed by persons desirous of prospecting in the Northern Territories and the rules regulating the grant of rights of option, leases, &c.

There are no manufactories in the European sense of the word, but the following articles are manufactured for local use and wear: cloth of good quality made from locally-grown cotton, mats, baskets, rope, saddlery and leather goods, brass ornaments, hoes, spears, arrow-heads, matchets, knives, and swords. The iron used for these articles is, for the most part, smelted locally.

At Daboya the extraction of salt by a process of evaporation from the soil in that locality is an industry which gives a fair return to those employed at it.

The manufacture of shea-butter and dawa-dawa is a growing industry—especially in the southern part of the Protectorate—as good prices are realised for these articles both in Ashanti and on the coast.

At most of the important towns there are dye-pits in which cloth of native manufacture is dyed with indigo.

Fishing is carried on in a large number of villages on the banks of the Volta, mainly to meet local demands; but within the past few years an increasing trade in dried fish has sprung up with Ashanti, which trade is supplied chiefly by the fishing villages on the southern bend of the Volta.

Agriculture is the staple industry of the Protectorate, but hitherto cultivation of economic products, such as cotton, maize, guinea-corn or millet, yams, ground-nuts, fibres, &c., on the part of the natives has been mainly for the supply of local needs. Every endeavour is now being made to induce them to grow products for export, of which cotton is the most important. Mr. Cornish, an expert sent to the Protectorate during the year under review by the British Cotton Growing Association to investigate its possibilities, has reported favourably on Gonja and Daboya cotton, and is of opinion that American varieties would do well.

In order to teach the natives to grow this valuable product scientifically, and to investigate the possibilities of other products for export, an agricultural station or experimental farm was opened at Tamale in June. It is at present supervised by an experienced native curator; but the late manager of the British Cotton Growing Association stationed at Labolabo has been appointed a curator in the Government Service, and is expected shortly at Tamale to take charge of this station.

A great incentive to natives to grow cotton for export is the decision of the British Cotton Growing Association to buy all cotton brought to the market in accordance with an agreement made with the Government. In this connection it may be mentioned that a cotton gin and press were received at Tamale early in the year and a public demonstration given in the market, where a bale of cotton weighing about 240 lbs. was ginned, pressed, and despatched to Tamale Port in a pony cart for export to Liverpool. This created quite a sensation and from all accounts has borne fruit, as much more cotton has been planted than formerly.

The harvest throughout the Protectorate has been plentiful, and more land is reported as having been put under cultivation than in previous years.

The improvement of the local breed of cattle is a subject to which attention is being given by all Commissioners by trying to induce the natives to select the most suitable bulls in their herds for breeding purposes and by the introduction of new blood through bulls imported from Moshi. An experiment was tried of importing bulls from the United Kingdom, but it was unsuccessful, as the bulls unfortunately died on the journey from the coast.

The sale of land is unknown. Land is supposed to belong to the paramount chief of a tribe, but, in practice, it is usually held by the chiefs and headmen of villages on behalf of their people. Individuals have the right to farm any portion of it without payment, provided that it has not been taken over by another member of the village or tribe.

Aliens are permitted to farm land for their own benefit, for which privilege they are supposed to give small quantities of first fruits annually to the chief of the village in whom the land is vested.

III.—LEGISLATION.

During the year under review two Ordinances were enacted by the Governor.

The Northern Territories Spirituous Liquor Ordinance was enacted to regulate the conditions under which the importation and sale of spirituous liquor, wine, and beer would be permitted.

Rules under Section 22 of the Northern Territories Administration Ordinance of 1902 were made by the Chief Commissioner and approved by the Governor with respect to regulations for the sale of firearms and ammunition in the Protectorate.

IV.—EDUCATION.

A Government Primary School for boys was opened at Tamale on the 2nd March with 14 pupils who had previously received some instructions in elementary English as members of a Boys' Brigade which was started at Tamale in October of previous year. The daily average attendance at the end of the year was 48.

At first the school was held in a temporary building, but in August it was transferred to a fully-equipped well-built stone school house. The staff consists of two native teachers. The capacity of the boys is reported on very favourably by the principal teacher, and all visitors to the school are unanimous in their appreciation of the progress made by the boys.

At Gambaga a number of boys belonging to the Boys' Brigade receive an hour's instruction daily in rudimentary subjects from one of the native officials.

The Fathers of the African Mission Society known as "Les Pères Blancs" started a Primary School at Navarro, in December, 1907. At present there are 23 boys attending this school who are fed and clothed by the Mission. The syllabus is that for infant classes, in addition to instruction in carpentry, and it is reported that the pupils have made very fair progress.

A number of intelligent boys, sons of chiefs, from various tribes in the Protectorate, who were sent to the Government School at Cape Coast for preliminary training in 1908, have been transferred to the New Technical School at Accra, and favourable reports have been received of their progress.

The boys who were attached to the workshops of the Public Works Department at Tamale in 1908 as apprentices to various trades have made good progress and are now receiving pay at the rate of 9*d*. per diem. These boys attend the Government School daily for an hour to learn arithmetic and colloquial English.

In all the towns in the Protectorate where Mohammedans congregate, classes are held by Mallams, at which Mohammedan children are taught to read and write Arabic and to repeat extracts from the Koran.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

There are no Government institutions in the Protectorate, except the hospitals at Tamale, Salaga, Bole, Gambaga, Bawku, Navarro, Wa, and Lorha. The Medical Staff in charge of these hospitals during the year included one Senior Medical Officer and seven Medical Officers, together with the usual native staff.

It is reported that the number of out-patients attending these hospitals is increasing.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The efficiency and general conduct of the Northern Territories Constabulary have been very satisfactory throughout the year. Although members were employed on special work, such as superintending the building of rest-houses and caravansaries and on road construction, yet, with one exception, no complaints were received of extortion or of their otherwise unduly exceeding their authority.

The erection of a new gaol at Tamale was commenced during the year; all the buildings, including the interior walls, are of stone. On the 31st December 20 cells were completed, and various workshops, stores, and a dispensary. On completion all long-sentenced prisoners will undergo their sentences at Tamale instead of being sent to Seccondee.

At Gambaga, Bawku, Navarro, Wa, Lorha, Bole, and Salaga there are minor gaols for the reception of short-sentenced prisoners.

The staff at Tamale at present consists of one native Keeper of Prisons and six temporary warders.

The minor gaols are in charge of the Medical Officers.

The total number of prisoners admitted to the Tamale gaol during the year was 232, of whom only one prisoner escaped.

The daily average of prisoners in all the gaols was 102.

There were no executions in 1909.

The general health of the prisoners in all gaols has been good and their behaviour satisfactory.

Prisoners' rations were supplied by contract, for which 1*d.* to 3*d.* per head per diem was allowed.

The prisoners were engaged chiefly in sanitary works, water-carrying, cleaning and keeping roads in repair at the several stations.

In the Northern Territories trial is summary. The number of convictions and acquittals in the superior and inferior courts in 1908 and 1909 was as follows:—

In the Superior Court.	1908.	1909.
Convictions for offences against person	4	1
„ „ slave-dealing	—	—
„ „ offences against property (other than prædial larceny).	1	—
„ „ other offences	1	11
Acquittals	—	1
Totals	6	13

In the Inferior Courts.	1908.	1909.
Convictions for offences against person	69	76
„ „ slave-dealing	3	—
„ „ offences against property (other than prædial larceny).	91	104
„ „ other offences	221	277
Acquittals	20	71
Totals	404	528

Murder, manslaughter, robbery with violence, kidnapping of children, and slave-dealing, which were formerly prevalent, have decreased considerably within the past few years.

The increase in the number of convictions in 1909 compared with the previous year is not due to an increase of crime in the Protectorate, but it is mainly owing to the Administration getting into closer touch with the people, in consequence of which more cases are brought to the courts than formerly.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The native population of the Northern Territories was roughly estimated at 318,000 in 1900, but little reliance can be placed on these figures, as a considerable portion of the most densely-populated parts of the Protectorate was under-estimated.

The number of Europeans who resided in the Protectorate for short or long periods during the year was 74. Of these 58 were

officials, the remainder being made up of seven missionaries, three merchants, five itinerant cattle dealers, and two wives of officials.

The daily average strength of officials was 22·62, and that of non-officials 5·0, both slightly below the averages for the previous year.

The health of Europeans was far from good. Three deaths occurred amongst the officials and one amongst the non-officials. Three officials were invalided. The deaths of the officials were due to malaria and that of the non-official to heart failure. In 1908, two officials were invalided, but no deaths occurred amongst either officials or non-officials.

The death-rate for officials was 5·17 per cent., that for non-officials was 6·25 per cent., and the invaliding rate for officials was 5·17 per cent.

The health of native officials was not so good as in previous years, as two deaths occurred and a larger number than usual were placed on the sick list; but that of the company of the Gold Coast Regiment stationed at Gambaga and of the Northern Territories Constabulary at all stations has been reported good.

With regard to epidemics there has been a decided improvement compared with the previous year; no cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis were reported, whereas, during the two previous years, it was very prevalent in the North-Western Province.

There was an epidemic of smallpox in many parts of the Protectorate, but it is gratifying to note that the investigations which were held into all reported outbreaks went to show that the percentage of mortality was small. In some villages as many as a hundred cases have been noted without a death ensuing. Extensive vaccination was carried out by the Medical Officers, and towards the end of the year the cases of smallpox reported were few and isolated.

The sanitary condition of all the native towns near stations where Europeans reside is very carefully attended to by the Medical Officers in charge.

When possible, Medical Officers travel through their respective districts, and do what they can to improve the sanitary condition of outlying villages.

The incinerators in use at Tamale have been found so successful that a number are being built at other stations.

The water supply at all outstations is receiving attention, and it is hoped that by the end of 1909 properly-constructed wells will have been sunk at all stations where they do not now exist.

Tamale and Gambaga are the only stations in the Northern Territories where meteorological records are kept. The rainfall at both these stations during the year has been the highest recorded.

1908 was the first year in which a complete record was kept at Tamale.

The rainfall at Gambaga in 1908 was 10 inches less than the average for the previous six years.

Meteorological Observations.

Station.	Temperature.						Rainfall.	
	Solar maximum.	Minimum on grass.	Shade maximum.	Shade minimum.	Range.	Mean.	Amount in inches.	Degrees of humidity.
Tamale ...	142·36	70·00	94·74	62·99	31·75	78·86	51·58	61·19
Gambaga ...	147·08	68·39	92·68	71·60	21·08	82·14	65·87	64·57

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

There are post and telegraph offices at the following towns: Tamale, Salaga, Yeji, Wa, and Bole. Mails are also received and despatched at Gambaga, Bawku, Navarro, and Lorha.

Between Tamale, Salaga, Yeji, and Coomassie, there is a bi-weekly mail service, and a weekly service between Tamale and other towns, and also between Wa and Coomassie, *viâ* Kintampo.

Parcels are received and despatched at all the above towns in accordance with the Postal Regulations of the Gold Coast Colony.

Money and postal orders on the United Kingdom and the Colony can be obtained at the post and telegraph offices.

There continues to be a yearly increase in the number of letters and telegrams received and despatched; and since the removal of the headquarters of the Protectorate from Gambaga to Tamale, a great increase has taken place in the number and value of money and postal orders issued at Tamale.

It is proposed to extend the telegraph line to Gambaga in 1910.

All the Government offices and hospital at Tamale are connected by telephone as well as some of the officers' quarters.

Tamale, Salaga and Yeji are also in telephonic communication.

IX.—RELIGION.

There is only one Christian Mission Society in the Protectorate, namely, the Roman Catholic Fraternity of the White Fathers, who started a mission at Navarro in 1906. They now have a well-built station, containing a commodious church, a large house for missionaries, boys' school, and quarters; and they report that there are over one hundred adult catechumens who regularly attend the mission for religious instruction.

Only a small proportion of the natives of the Protectorate are Mohammedans. The great majority are pagans, who are great believers in the powers for good or evil of their respective fetishes, to which they make offerings periodically of poultry or other live-stock. Nearly every family has its own fetish, which may be either a stick or a stone, a crocodile or some other animal, or a pot full of stagnant water placed in a secluded corner of a compound.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The late Lieutenant-Colonel Watherston, C.M.G., R.E., administered the Protectorate from the 1st January of the year under review until his death on the 12th December. This sad event occurred just as this officer was preparing to proceed on leave after a very strenuous tour of service. His death is deeply regretted not only by all officials, European and native, who had the honour to serve under him, but also by the native population with whom he came in contact during the many years he was connected with the Northern Territories as chief British Commissioner of the Anglo-French Boundary Commissions from 1899-1901 and afterwards as Chief Commissioner of the Protectorate. As an instance of the respect in which he was held by the natives, funeral customs were celebrated by the three paramount chiefs of Dagomba in accordance with the ceremonies due on the decease of a king of Dagomba or Mamprussi.

Major R. A. Irvine acted as Chief Commissioner from the 12th December until the end of the year.

District Commissioners Captains A. M. Fleury and A. G. Aglionby were invalided, and Mr. A. L. Castellain and Captain W. Swire were appointed to fill the vacancies thus caused.

Our relations with the local representatives of France and Germany have been of a cordial nature throughout the year.

Considerable progress was made in building the new headquarters at Tamale, where the following permanent buildings were completed during the year:—

(1) Chief Commissioner's house, kitchen, clerks' office, store and guard room.

(2) A large school house for the Government Primary School, capable of accommodating 100 boys, fully equipped with necessary fittings and furniture.

(3) A block of twenty cells in the new prison, as well as prison office, dispensary, store, tailors', carpenters' and blacksmiths' shops, and nearly the whole of the outside walls of the prison.

Good progress was also made in the erection of a house for the Provincial Commissioner.

The following temporary buildings were erected: dispenser's quarters, club house, clerks' recreation room, and 45 market stalls.

A number of minor works were also executed, and furniture and fittings made for Treasury, Post Office, &c.

At Salaga, the Medical Officer's quarters, which had been wrecked by a tornado, were rebuilt, and a new Court House and District Commissione 's office nearly completed. At Bole, new Medical Officer's quarters were built.

At Wa, a new house for the Provincial Commissioner was nearly completed.

At Bawku, quarters for two officers, Court House and District Commissioner's office, hospital, gaol, magazine, and treasury vault were built.

All the buildings referred to at outstations are more or less of a temporary nature, being built of sun-dried bricks and with grass roofs.

Great attention was paid by all Commissioners to the upkeep of existing roads, and to the construction of new roads in accordance with a general scheme inaugurated in 1908, whereby it is hoped that in time Tamale will become the distributing base for these Territories.

The principal roads completed in the several provinces were: in the Southern Province, Tamale to Yamalaga, and Tamale to Tamale Port; Savelugu to Diari. In the North-Western Province, two roads from Lorha to Wa, one *viâ* Sombo, Daffiama, and Girapa, and the other *viâ* Sombo, Nadawle, and Yagu. In the North-Eastern Province, Bawku to Zongoiri. A road from the French frontier *viâ* Paha, Navarro, and Kurugu to Na was also completed. It is of interest to note in connection with this road that the French authorities have continued it from the frontier to Wagadugu.

Good progress has been made on the following trunk roads: Diari to Gambaga, Wa to Tamale, and Tamale to Daboya.

Owing to the exceptionally heavy rainfall all over the Protectorate in 1909, a great deal of damage was done to roads already made and to those in course of construction, notably to that part of the Coomassie-Tamale trunk road which lies between Yeji and Makongo, on which a great amount of work had been done before the heavy rains set in.

Rest-houses have been built along all the above-mentioned roads where none formerly existed and those previously built were put in thorough repair. Large caravansaries have also been built at a number of towns, and more are being built as they appear to be greatly appreciated by native traders, especially those with large herds of cattle.

The stores required for use in these Territories are sent by carriers engaged by the Transport Department from Coomassie to Yeji and Kintampo, in the first instance, and are afterwards taken to the several stations by local carriers. These carriers are employed in their respective districts as far as the exigencies of the service will permit. They receive 6*d*. a day when carrying loads and 3*d*. a day on the return journey, the chiefs who supply them being paid head-money at the rate of 1*d*. a day for each carrier supplied.

Heavy materials such as telegraph poles, &c., for use in the eastern portion of the Protectorate, have been sent *viâ* the River Volta from Ada in native canoes to Yeji and Tamale Port.

An important event in connection with river-borne goods or stores was the completion of a monorail round the rapids at British Kratchi during the year.

As the introduction of wheeled transport, instead of the present system of human porterage, is such an important factor in the future development of the Protectorate, roads are being constructed with this object; and it is hoped that in the near future wheeled transport will gradually replace the present system. An experiment is now being made with two donkey-carts imported from the United Kingdom. Carts drawn by horses have been used with success between Tamale and Tamale Port on the Volta, and it has been found for station work at Tamale that one cart could perform the work of 30 carriers in one day.

It is very difficult to ascertain, even approximately, the number of natives from the neighbouring possessions of France and Germany who are reported to immigrate into these Territories at various times.

Along the eastern boundary of the Gonja District a number of villages have sprung up, which are inhabited by natives who have migrated from Togoland, and a number of people from Moshi and the northern parts of Togoland are said to have settled in the North-Eastern Province.

A number of labourers, natives of the Protectorate, have gone temporarily to Ashanti and to the Colony to work in the mines, on roads, and on railway construction, but no information has been received of any emigration, in the strict sense of the word, having taken place from the Protectorate into either of the neighbouring foreign possessions or Ashanti.

The climate of the Northern Territories, like the rest of West Africa, is unhealthy for Europeans. There are no openings for white labour.

The rates of wages for local unskilled labour range from 6*d*. to 10*d*. a day; skilled labour has to be imported from the Colony or Ashanti, and the usual daily wages for carpenters, masons, sawyers, blacksmiths, &c., is from 2*s*. to 3*s*.

Cost of living for natives is cheap, as there is always a plentiful supply of native foodstuffs exposed for sale in the markets at very reasonable prices.

The cost of living for Europeans is expensive, owing to the heavy cost of transport on all stores which it is necessary to import, such as wines, spirits, flour, groceries, kerosine oil, &c.

The social condition and general state of the Protectorate continue to improve steadily year by year, more especially since the former semi-military administration was replaced, at the beginning of 1907, by the present civil system. The number of stations has been increased and Commissioners have been enabled, by travelling more constantly and by greater attention to the development of communications in their respective districts, to get into closer touch with the natives, and, in consequence, are able to exercise more effective control than was formerly possible.

Inter-tribal raids and family feuds, which a few years ago frequently led to bloodshed, have now practically ceased.

Looting of caravans and traders, which used to be a daily occurrence, is now very rarely reported. Slave-dealing and the abduction of women and children are no longer prevalent. The numerous marauders who, a short time ago, took a heavy toll of the lives and property of the natives have been stamped out; and unarmed natives are now to be seen travelling in many parts of the Protectorate where formerly only large parties fully-armed dared venture.

During the year under review, the only part of the Protectorate where the Administration met with any opposition was in the densely-populated district lying to the north of the Sapari Hills, where the natives of several villages defied the authority of, and on one occasion showed open hostility towards, the Government.

The company of the Gold Coast Regiment at Gambaga has been transferred to a new station which has recently been opened at Zanlerigu, in the centre of this hitherto unsettled area, and there is every reason to hope that very little opposition will be met with there in future. Opposition on the part of natives generally to the Government has been found in the past to be due mainly to ignorance, engendered by fear as to our intention towards them, and when they have learnt to realise that we have come amongst them as friends and not to molest them, they have soon become amenable and law-abiding.

R. A. IRVINE,

Acting Chief Commissioner,
Northern Territories.

Tamale,
14th April, 1910.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
606	Seychelles	1908
607	Jamaica	1907–1908
608	Colonial Survey Committee	1908–1909
609	Gambia	1908
610	Malta	1908–1909
611	Sierra Leone	1908
612	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
613	Gold Coast	,,
614	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1908–1909
615	Bahamas	,,
616	St. Lucia	1908
617	Hong Kong...	,,
618	Fiji	,,
619	Nyasaland	1908–1909
620	Barbados	,,
621	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
622	Straits Settlements...	1908
623	Somaliland	1908–1909
624	Mauritius	1908
625	St. Vincent	1908–1909
626	Jamaica	,,
627	Swaziland	,,
628	Grenada	1908
629	Leeward Islands	1908–1909
630	Southern Nigeria	1908
631	British Honduras	,,
632	British Guiana	1908–1909
633	Northern Nigeria	,,
634	Basutoland	,,
635	East Africa Protectorate	,,
636	Uganda	,,
637	Weihaiwei	,,
638	St. Helena	1909

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
63	Imperial Institute	Gums and Resins.
64	Uganda	Botany and Forestry.
65	,, ...	Sleeping Sickness.
66	Gold Coast	Forests.
67	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1905–6.
68	Do. do.	Do. do. 1906–7.
69	St. Helena	Fisheries.
70	Colonies	List of Laws relating to Patents, Trade Marks, &c.
71	Imperial Institute	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34–40, BACON STREET, E.

1910.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 683.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1910.

(For Report for 1909, *see* No. 639.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
August, 1911.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
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PRINTED BY
DARLING AND SON, LTD., BACON STREET, E.
1911.

[Cd. 5467–19.] *Price* 3½*d.*

CONTENTS.

		Page
I.	FINANCIAL	5
II.	TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES	6
	General	6
	Internal	6
	Cattle and Cola	7
	Agriculture	8
	Industries	8
III.	LEGISLATION	8
IV.	EDUCATION	8
	Government Schools	8
	Roman Catholic School	9
V.	GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	9
VI.	JUDICIAL STATISTICS	9
	Constabulary	9
	Prisons	10
VII.	VITAL STATISTICS	11
	Population	11
	Health	11
	Sanitation	11
	Water	11
	Meteorological	12
	Gardens	12
VIII.	POSTAL, TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SERVICES	12
IX.	RELIGION	12
X.	GENERAL OBSERVATIONS	13
	Relations with representatives of Foreign Powers	13
	Agreement *re* French and English Currency	13
	Migration	13
	German Leper Settlement	13
	French Administration	13
	Political Condition of the Protectorate and Native Affairs ...	14
	Roads and Rest Houses	15
	Ferries	16
	Preventive Service	17
	Public Works Department	17
	Labour and Transport	17
	Military	18
	Administration	26

No. 683.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

(For Report for 1909, *see* No. 639)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Accra,
5th July, 1911.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, the Annual Report on the Northern Territories for the year 1910, together with a sketch map.

2. A new item of £596 appears under Firearms, and represents fees recovered under the rules passed in November, 1909. On the other hand, there is a falling off of £387 under Miscellaneous, accounted for by the fact that no provisions were stocked and sold in 1910 subsequent to the abolition in 1909 of the practice of selling stores to public officers.

3. The expenditure charged against the Northern Territories is £8,063 in excess of the charge made in 1909, and is accounted for by increases under Medical Department, Agriculture, Forestry, Gold Coast Regiment, Northern Territories, Head XXXII, Roads Department, and Posts and Telegraphs Extraordinary.

4. It is satisfactory to note that copper coinage is gradually coming into circulation among the natives; but there is some reason to believe that it is utilized to manufacture ornaments rather than as a medium of purchase.

5. The Chief Commissioner comments on the apathy of the natives as to outside trade. It is true that the cola and cattle trade is expanding, but it is in the hands of outsiders who reap the profit therefrom.

The question of providing for the supervision and control of the importation of cattle is an important one and will be dealt with hereafter.

6. The harvest was a poor one, and I fear that some privation may result, as the natives grow crops barely sufficient for their needs, making no provision for a bad year.

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7. It is much to be regretted that the three bulls referred to in the last paragraph under Trade, Agriculture, and Industries have all died.

8. So far no great progress has been made in developing the cultivation of cotton, but when the Agricultural Station at Tamale has made its influence felt I trust that, with the co-operation of the Agricultural Department and the British Cotton Growing Association, this object will be achieved.

9. The Government Primary School at Tamale is well attended, and it is proposed next year to provide for the establishment of one or more provincial schools which are much required.

10. The Constabulary performed their duties with the efficiency which has always characterised that fine body of men.

11. There was a decrease of serious crime, and the excess in the number of summary convictions is to be ascribed to improved means of detection rather than to a growing number of offences.

12. The health of the Europeans showed a marked improvement, there being only two deaths, one case of invaliding, and 34 sick list cases; but the report on the health of the native officials is not so satisfactory.

There were no serious epidemics during the year.

13. Great attention was paid to sanitation, and considerable improvement was effected in the water supply for Europeans and natives.

14. At all stations gardens exist which yield a good supply of vegetables and fruits.

15. It was impossible to complete the telegraph line to Gambaga within the year under review.

16. The political state of the Protectorate was satisfactory, and relations with the adjoining French and German Administrations most cordial.

17. Fair progress was made in the extension of roads and the building programme at Tamale was pushed forward as far as funds were available. The buildings there will be finished this year, and I trust that the new station at Zouaragu will also be completed before 1912.

18. The question of organizing and efficiently supervising the supply of labour from the Northern Territories to the mines is engaging attention, and will require careful treatment in view of the prejudice of the natives against migrating south.

19. By the death of Mr. Reginald Palmer and Mr. A. J. Berney the Protectorate lost two capable and popular District Commissioners.

I have, &c.,

J. J. THORBURN,
Governor.

The Right Honourable,
Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR 1910.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The Revenue from the Northern Territories in 1909 amounted to £1,690, while in the year following it increased to £1,806—showing a net increase of £116, which is mainly due to fees for firearms and ammunition licences credited during the year 1910.

The increases and decreases under each head of revenue and expenditure are shown in the appended statements:—

Comparative statement of revenue from Northern Territories during the year 1910 as compared with the previous year, 1909:—

Head.	1909.	1910.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Hunting Licences	20	7	—	13
Court Fines and Fees	351	268	—	83
Market and Slaughter House Fees.	488	482	—	6
Sale of Live Stock	46	97	51	—
Sale of Stamps	180	140	—	40
Miscellaneous	570	183	—	387
Rent from Government Land...	17	18	1	—
Wine and Beer Licences ...	18	15	—	3
Firearms Licences	—	596	596	—
Total	1,690	1,806	648	532

	£
Total Increase	648
Deduct Decrease	532
Net Increase	116

Expenditure charged against Northern Territories under various heads in 1910 as compared with the previous year, 1909:—

Head.	1909.	1910.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Printing Office	—	1,266	1,266	—
Provincial and District Commissioners.	21	18	—	3
Treasury...	430	442	12	—
Customs	277	274	—	3
Customs Preventive Services ...	1,219	942	—	277
Post and Telegraphs	536	608	72	—
Transport Department... ...	556	590	34	—
Medical Department	7,074	7,771	697	—
Sanitation	291	326	35	—
Veterinary	166	130	—	36

Head.	1909.	1910.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Education	164	201	37	—
Agriculture	435	1,027	592	—
Forestry...	—	304	304	—
Gold Coast Regiment, W.A.F.F	5,189	5,449	260	—
Northern Territories	24,661	25,473	812	—
Constabulary, N.T.	10,940	10,493	—	447
Ashanti & N.T. Roads Department.	9,358	13,656	4,298	—
Public Works Department ...	389	383	—	6
Public Works Annually Recurrent.	241	259	18	—
Public Works Extraordinary	3,470	3,283	—	187
Post and Telegraph Extraordinary.	1,752	2,337	585	—
Total	67,169	75,232	9,022	959

	£
Total Increase	9,022
Less Decrease	959
Net Increase	8,063

Throughout the Protectorate, political officers have endeavoured to push the copper coinage, and have been fairly successful in getting the natives to accept it. In the new Fra Fra District it is becoming quite popular, and over £50 has lately been paid out for building. It is reported, however, that much of this and also silver is melted down for the purpose of making native ornaments.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

One must be possessed of great optimism to be able to throw out hopes of much export trade from the Northern Territories, at any rate for some years to come. The great bar to such trade is, of course, the existing lack of transport facilities.

As regards internal trade; this has never been great, nor—so long as existing conditions continue—is it likely to improve much. Next year's census will probably show that we have hitherto largely over-estimated our population. In addition to this our population, at the best of times barely self-supporting in foodstuffs, is at present working at a disadvantage, owing to increasing calls for labour on account of building, road-making, and transport. The money we pay out for labour is of no great use to the people, who as regards outside trade are peculiarly apathetic. As a matter of fact it is probable that most of the silver and copper coinage paid out is made into ornaments, whilst the cowrie is still the main currency for the purchase of foodstuffs that from time to time appear in the local markets in small quantities.

At the same time, for the cola and salt trade going up country, and the cattle and flocks coming down, we are a very important stepping-stone between Ashanti and the Colony on the one hand, and the French and German territories adjoining us on the other. Both cola and cattle trades are undoubtedly increasing. In support of this I will quote from provincial reports. These statistics cannot claim to be complete or even accurate, but give a fair idea of the extent of both these trades. We find, for instance, that no less than 35,722 cattle and 70,213 sheep and goats entered the Protectorate at Wa, Bawku, and Navarro during the year under review, while 3,860 cattle and 16,813 sheep and goats passed down country through Salaga alone.

Again, 30,526 loads of cola passed out of the Protectorate to the north through the same stations. As regards these loads I do not discriminate between human loads and donkey loads. I have taken the latter at two of the former and have given the sum total under one heading. A load as quoted may be reckoned at 60 lbs.

The cattle trade is in the hands of Moshis, Hausas and Fulanis, none of whom are inhabitants of the country.

In this connection I would note that the Commissioner of the North-Eastern Province (Major Festing) suggests the advisability of a more careful supervision of the cattle trade. He thinks there is little doubt that the lung sickness which has been epidemic for the past four months, and possibly the anthrax lately reported, are introduced by the herds of Moshi cattle coming south from French territory. In this opinion he is supported by Doctors Harper, Tighe and Lundie. This question, however, will be the subject of a special report wherein the practicability of controlling the importation of cattle and the supervision of beasts in transit through the Protectorate will be put forward.

To refer once more to the instability of our internal trade and the apathy of our natives with regard to it, it is interesting to note that last year (1909) the Acting Chief Commissioner (Major Irvine) reported the turnover in the European store at Tamale as being at least 50 per cent. greater than that of the previous year. The Acting Provincial Commissioner, Southern Province (Captain Kortright) reporting on the year under review (1910) now states: "The petty traders do not seem to be increasing in number as there is no demand for an increase in the number of market stalls. I am informed by Mr. Hutter's agent that a decrease of 50 per cent. in cash sales occurred in 1910 as compared with the previous year. This is due partly to the fact that traders are buying in rather larger quantities in Coomassie; that the workmen from the Coast were not so numerous as in 1909, and, lastly, that the store is not stocked to meet the demands of the clerical staff and Coast natives." Again, Captain Moutray Read, whilst noting that trade is slightly increasing in the North-Western Province, states: "In spite of this, however, an estimate that 90 per cent. of the traders who pass through Wa are not natives of the Northern Protectorate is probably a low one." In other words, the natives of the Protectorate do not want to earn money to spend on trade goods. Their natural inclination is towards agriculture and cattle breeding. The fact that the European store ran a

brisk trade when it first opened is probably only due to the propensity of the natives to be temporarily attracted by the novelties they saw exposed for sale.

The harvest throughout the Protectorate has been a poor one. The rains failed at the most critical time. A second planting, tried later in certain places, was only partially successful. This has been a great blow to the people. It is feared, therefore, that from next May on to the reaping of the 1911 crops some privation will result. It is useless to lament the improvidence of the native. He never allows for a bad year nor will he turn a hand to plant crops for the maintenance of any but himself and his immediate family. The bad year is discouraging too to those who have been endeavouring to get the native to take up the cultivation of cotton and other economic products.

Although agriculturally inclined, the native's methods of tilling the soil are still primitive. Cultivation of land by the rotation of crops he thoroughly understands; but, unfortunately, no system of top dressing is practised. This is a great pity, as in every village and hamlet, particularly where cattle are kept, tons of excellent manure are wasted yearly.

As noted in last year's and previous reports, only articles of primitive design are made by the natives. None of these are worth considering as exports, though many of them are of appreciable local value, particularly those pertaining to agriculture.

In the report for 1909, the Acting Chief Commissioner notes that an attempt was made during that year to introduce English bulls with a view to improving our local breed of cattle. The bulls were of the "Polled Angus" variety. They were not suitable to the country, and though they left England in fat show condition, they did not live to reach the Northern Territories. Three more bulls have now been ordered from England, and are coming out under charge of a veterinary surgeon who has selected breeds more suitable for the purpose.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Ordinances were enacted during the year 1910 to further amend "The Northern Territories Administration Ordinance, 1902," and to further amend "The Northern Territories Constabulary Ordinance, 1906."

Rules with respect to the Regulations of Towns and Villages, under Section 23 (5) of the Northern Territories Administration Ordinance, 1902, were also framed and approved.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Government primary school at Tamale continues to give fair results. The Acting Provincial Commissioner of the Southern Province (Captain Kortright) has taken an interest in

it and reports well on the progress made by the boys. At the end of the year when the school broke up for the holidays there were 62 scholars drawn from the families of chiefs and better class natives in various parts of the Protectorate.

The Commissioner of the North-Western Province (Captain Moutray Read) urges that provincial schools should be started. He considers that Tamale is too far from many of the towns in other provinces, and that the parents are not willing to send their children there for that reason.

It is, I think, generally recognised that native parents are very averse to young boys being removed from home influences. On the other hand, unless the boys are quite young, it is useless trying to educate them. This question can, however, hardly be discussed in an Annual Report.

The Catholic (Pères Blancs) Mission School at Navarro is also well reported on. Major Festing notes that the boys are well clothed and cared for, very intelligent and very well mannered. The school workshops have also proved useful, and planks, windows, &c. have been supplied from them to the new station at Zouaragu.

It is lamented that Brother Damien, who was in charge of the workshops, died in the autumn.

As noted in last year's (1909) report there are several Muhamedan schools at various places in the Protectorate. I do not gather that Muhamedan influence is greatly on the increase, and there seems no reason to either encourage or discourage these schools.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Except the Experimental Farm and the Government Primary School at Tamale, there are no other institutions except the various station hospitals.

The Annual Report by the Provincial Medical Officer has been rendered to the Principal Medical Officer, Gold Coast.

There are hospitals at Tamale, Bole, Gambaga, Bawku, Zouaragu, Navarro, Wa, and Lorha. The attendance of out-patients at all of these is steadily increasing. This fact, I venture to suggest, proves more than anything else that the relations between the Administration and the native population are satisfactory.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

A separate report has been rendered by the Commandant of Constabulary and has been transmitted through the Acting Chief Commissioner to the Colonial Secretary.

Captain Marlow, the Commandant, appears eminently satisfied with the force under his command, and is, I consider, justified in being so.

The Constabulary are a remarkably fine body of men, and considering they are split up into small detachments and have many and various duties to perform they are wonderfully smart and well disciplined.

The Commissioner of the North-Western Province considers that from a military point of view the constabulary are deteriorating from want of instruction. The Commissioner of the North-Eastern Province holds the same opinion. This would appear inevitable. The detachments at outstations are under the supervision of political officers or of medical officers acting as such. None of these have the time, and many have not the ability, to impart military instruction.

All prisoners sentenced to more than six months' imprisonment are now sent to Tamale, owing to escapes having occurred during the year in the North-Western and North-Eastern Provinces. This means that there must in future be accommodation at Tamale for an average of 50 convicts.

Gaols at outstations will in future be required only as lock-ups or for short-sentenced prisoners up to six months. There are such minor gaols at all outstations, and they are under the charge of the medical officers, who arrange for the food of the prisoners and allot them their labour tasks.

The following are the statistics of the Tamale prison for the year under review:—

One Keeper of Prisons and 12 temporary warders.

Two permanent assistant warders have been applied for.

There was only one escape at Tamale during the year. The man was re-captured in a few minutes.

There were no deaths, and the health of the convicts was good. The daily average of prisoners was 28.

The prisoners' food was supplied by contract at 3d. per diem. The work performed was sanitation and water carrying.

There was no executions at Tamale, but two at Wa.

The following is the comparative table of crime during the past four years as compiled for the Blue Book:—

—	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.
The number of offences reported to the police ...	402	434	528	403
The number of persons apprehended by the police	402	434	528	403
The number of summary convictions—				
1. For offences against the person	86	69	76	122
2. For slave dealing	6	3	—	—
3. For offences against property other than praedial larceny.	69	91	104	87
4. For other offences	132	221	276	196
The number of convictions in the Superior Courts—				
1. For offences against the person	9	4	1	—
2. For slave dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For offences against property other than praedial larceny.	29	1	—	7
4. For other offences	52	1	10	13
The number of persons acquitted—				
1. In the Inferior Courts...	10	20	71	57
2. In the Superior Courts...	5	—	2	2

This return shows, on the whole, a decrease of serious crime.

As an explanation of the increase of summary convictions I will quote Major Irvine's remarks last year (1909), viz.:—" The increase is not due to there being more crime, but is owing to the fact that the Administration is getting into closer touch with the people, and therefore more cases come to the Courts than formerly."

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

It is of little use speculating as to what our population is at present. As accurate a census as is practicable will be taken in April, 1911. It is probable that we shall find our previous estimates excessive. There is no district that can be described as " densely populated " in the usually accepted sense, but there is a vast variation in the population of the various districts.

The annual report of the Provincial Medical Officer (Dr. Tweedy) has been sent to the Principal Medical Officer of the Gold Coast. It deals respectively with the health of Europeans, native officials, natives indigenous to the Protectorate, troops, and constabulary. On the whole it is satisfactory so far as Europeans are concerned and shows a marked improvement on the previous year. There were two deaths, one of which was that of a missionary who had been in the country over five years. There was only one invaliding, and altogether only 34 were from time to time placed on the sick list.

The report on the health of native officials is not so good. Many of these have been up country for long spells without returning to the Coast.

The health of troops and constabulary is considered good.

Among indigenous natives there have been no serious epidemics. There has been no cerebro-spinal meningitis.

There have been several cases of sleeping sickness (trypanosomiasis) in the Southern Province, but throughout the remainder of the Protectorate only 3 cases have been reported.

Great attention has been paid to sanitation both at headquarters and at outstations. Villages in the immediate neighbourhood of the above are also kept in good order. This, as Dr. Tweedy says, is only accomplished by constant supervision. If this is relaxed for any length of time the people soon return to their insanitary habits. Be that as it may, it is encouraging to be able to state that the villages for miles round Tamale compare very favourably in point of cleanliness with other native villages in West Africa.

The introduction of incinerators at all stations has greatly improved the sanitary conditions. They are undoubtedly largely instrumental in doing away with flies and other insect pests. In the neighbourhood of barracks, stables, &c., they are invaluable. They were first introduced at Tamale about two years ago, and were so successful that they were immediately adopted elsewhere.

During the year under review, the medical officers have also given great attention to the water supply. One can now report

favourably on the European water supply throughout the Protectorate. Considerable improvement has also been effected at most stations as regards the native supply. To ensure this latter is no easy matter as it requires constant supervision.

In the neighbourhood of Tamale, a dam has been constructed across one of the watercourses in the hope of retaining some of the water that formerly ran to waste almost immediately the rains ceased.

Dr. Tweedy remarks there is nothing particular to note about the meteorological conditions of 1910. The rainfall was less than in the previous year and greater than in 1908. The temperature was normal, varying slightly with the seasons.

There are gardens at all stations. Seeds are consigned to these in airtight boxes direct from home, so that there is no delay as regards their distribution. Excellent vegetables are grown almost everywhere, and are a great boon to European officials.

Tomatoes, carrots, beets, lettuce, cabbages, cucumbers, beans, and radishes do well. In some places fair melons have been grown. Various native fruits and vegetables such as paw-paws, okroes, limes, bananas, &c., are also cultivated.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

There is little to add to last year's report. The postal arrangements are the same.

The extension of the telegraph line to Gambaga has not been completed, owing to lack of poles and other material. A telephone office has been opened at line head about 15 miles from Gambaga. It is hoped that next year the line will be laid to Zouaragu.

IX.—RELIGION.

There is still only one Christian Mission in the Protectorate, the Catholic (Roman) Fraternity of the White Fathers. Of these there are now four. As has been noted, they suffered a sad loss by the death of brother Damien, which occurred last autumn. They have been at Navarro in the North-Eastern Province since 1906. They have still a good attendance of adult catechumens, but they do not profess to make converts to Christianity as rapidly as do Protestant Societies.

It was recently suggested by the Father Superior that a nunnery should be started at Navarro. This was not encouraged for various reasons, political and otherwise.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Our relations with both French and German Administrations have been most cordial.

Very few frontier disputes have cropped up, and none that could not be satisfactorily settled locally. Both foreign Governments are particularly anxious to co-operate with us in preventing frontier thieves and other undesirables from seeking refuge in our respective territories.

Visits were paid by French officials to the Commissioners in the North-Western and North-Eastern Provinces. Our guests were most pressing that their visits should be returned.

In this connection the Commissioner, North-Western Province, in his annual report notes:—

"A visit was paid by the Administrateur Adjoint des Colonies à Leo to the District Commissioner, Lorha. The object of the visit was chiefly to try and make an arrangement for the exchange of English and French silver, and that both nations should accept French or English silver indiscriminately in the Treasury chests. M. Quedueany, at Deibugu, also wrote to the District Commissioner, Lorha, on the subject."

The matter was referred to Captain Moutray Read, at Wa, and he naturally was unable to accede to the request. He was moreover informed by M. Bouchot, the Resident, Leo, that negotiations were proceeding on the subject between the French Governor-General and the Governor of the Gold Coast. We do not appear to have yet heard of the result of these negotiations.

Gold is still in request in the North-Eastern Province. Moshi and other traders willingly pay 21s. for a sovereign for the purpose of trading in cattle. The latest reports point to the exchange still being 25 francs to £1 gold in French territory, although it is suggested certain money changers and even native Government officials still insist *sub rosa* on giving only four five-franc pieces to the £1.

From provincial reports there does not appear to be any migration either to or from the Protectorate worth noticing. Some 200 or more families have recrossed from German territory to Bawku district during the past years (1909 and 1910).

It is stated by the District Commissioner at Bawku (Captain Wheeler) that a leper settlement has been started by the Germans at a place called Nakpandur close to Shishi (south-east of Bawku District). It is suggested that some of the inhabitants, probably objecting to this movement on the part of the German Government, wish to come over to us.

The Commissioner of the North-Eastern Province has taken particular interest in French methods of administration, especially as regards taxation, as affecting the subject under review. The French subjects along the border adjoining the North-Eastern Province are practically identical with our natives north of the White Volta, *i.e.*, Grunshi and Fra Fra. The French Government appear to have little difficulty in collecting their dues; at any rate, there is no great evasion of them by natives crossing to our territory. The Commissioner attributes this fact to the French here, as in the Soudan north of the Niger and in Dahomey,

having from the first adhered to one set policy. The people undoubtedly know how they stand, and have accepted the situation.

The condition of the Protectorate will, I trust, be considered in the main satisfactory. Our political staff is comparatively small, and officials have many and varied duties to perform. Consequently real political work, such as travelling and getting in touch with the natives, is seldom possible.

The Acting Commissioner of the Southern Province (Captain Kortright) reports as follows:—"The Political state of the Province may be considered satisfactory. With the exception of two incidents there has been no occurrence worthy of note. Of the two incidents the more important was the destoolment and imprisonment of Mama, the then Chief of Savelugu, and Paramount Chief of Western Dagomba. The other incident was the refusal of the Chief of Bole to sit on the Yabum Stool, as Paramount Chief of Bole District."

The Provincial Commissioner of the North-Western Province (Captain Moutray Read) reports as follows:—"The relations of all Paramount Chiefs with each other continue very good, and there have been no disputes between them of any kind."

"The death of Mama, Paramount Chief of Golu, has removed one of the strongest chiefs in the Province. Mama, at the time of the Babatu raids, was the only chief in British Grunshi who successfully resisted the attempts to capture his town, which he did by his personal bravery and able defence of the town of Golu, which he had strengthened by the construction of three loop-holed walls. His death is much regretted.

"His son, Hama, who succeeded him, follows in his footsteps in being liked by the people, over whom he has good control, and in helping the Administration.

"Another change among Paramount Chiefs is Bantuo, who was elected Chief of Kudjopere in place of Mang, who was deposed on account of age and imbecility.

"In Lobi and in parts of Dagarti where men formerly never left their compounds without their bows and poisoned arrows, they now only take them to their farms or hunting grounds, and never to any of the markets.

"Cloth, however, is not yet in demand for their women, and if peace and the beginning of civilization has created more demand for cloth for the men it is not noticeable among the women. This is especially the case in Grunshi, where it is now exceptional to see a naked man, though the women, except those belonging to Mahommedans, are all naked.

"The permission to take out gun licences and the promise that facilities of purchasing powder would be granted was received with general rejoicing by all tribes, and 2,408 guns were brought in to Wa to be marked between the 17th of May and the end of the year; 340 were also stamped at Lorha. There are still many more to be brought in and the total number will probably exceed 4,000."

The Provincial Commissioner of the North-Eastern Province (Major Festing) reports as follows:—"Generally speaking, so far as the greater part of the Province is concerned, things have

worked very smoothly during the past year. My attempt, with the late Chief Commisioner's approval, to buoy up the power of Mamprussi has been fairly successful. During my absence on leave Captain Warden loyally carried on this policy. As a result, Mahama, Chief of the tribe, is to-day quite helpful to the Administration in certain ways. It is idle to pretend that he has much individual authority either over his minor chiefs or over the people generally. In matters of tradition, native law and custom, &c., he is, however, distinctly useful. As a referee in boundary and such like questions his rulings are usually to the point, and are almost invariably accepted and adhered to without demur.

"Throughout the past twelve months reports have been submitted dealing with the situation in the new Fra-Fra District, of which Zouaragu is the headquarters. There reports point to a general unsatisfactory state of things and to a growing disaffection towards us in those parts.

"The Bawku District is most satisfactory and the station is increasing daily. The District Commissioner (Captain Swire) did most excellent work during his tour. This official is a good man with natives, and has had the great advantage of dealing with them in other parts of the world. Various little innovations that he had found useful elsewhere he has successfully adopted in Bawku.

"There has been slight trouble in Kanjarga during the past twelve months as reported in my December's quarterly report. I attribute this chiefly to our not having hitherto been able to visit the district sufficiently."

The Acting Commissioner of the Southern Province is not satisfied with the amount of road-making done during the year under review. He is, I think, unduly pessimistic, as some really good work has been done.

As regards the Yeji-Makongo section, this can only be considered as a part of the trunk road under construction from Coomassie to the Northern Territories. Scientific work alone can make this bit of road permanent, and all that we can do until this is available is to patch up the worst portions each year as best we can.

As regards the Tamale-Nasia section some really excellent work has been done through the two marshes close to Diari. A good raised roadway has been constructed in each case for quite one-third of two bits of marsh, each some miles in extent. In this case it will pay to do a little really good work each dry season. As labour is not available in large quantities, we must be content to spread the work over two more dry seasons. We shall then have a permanent road completed from Tamale to Nasia.

The Commissioner of the North-Western Province reports the roads good. They have stood the rains well and all have been cleaned twice during the year. Bridges have been repaired.

He notes "considerable damage was done to the Tamale road and to culverts and bridges by elephants during the rains."

There are now 124 miles of "20 feet between ditches" road constructed in this Province.

The roads in the North-Eastern Province are reported in a satisfactory condition. A new main road from Nasia to Zouaragu

via Wale-Wale is in course of construction; 30 odd miles of this was laid out and the construction personally supervised by the Travelling Commissioner (Captain Warden). When the Tong Hills troubles are terminated the road will be carried across the Volta to Zouaragu.

Round Zouaragu, the suggested new headquarters of the Province, three miles of good road have been made in all directions. This three miles of roadway will be extended each year a like distance. Certain main roads will be completed sooner.

The roads in Bawku and Navarro districts are particularly well cared for, and credit is due to District Commissioners Berkeley, Wheeler, and Swire for the personal supervision they have given.

In connection with Captain Read's remarks as to the damage done to the roads by caravans the Commissioner of the North-Eastern Province also notes:—

"At present we are merely a stepping-stone towards the down-country markets, and, as a Protectorate, do not benefit at all by the caravan traffic. If anything we are losers by it, for the herds in transit and beasts of burden do some damage to crops and considerable damage to the roads, and benefit our natives pecuniarily in no way at all."

This question, of course, hinges on that of caravan tolls and as such is out of discussion. The fact, however, that these alien coloured traders overrun the Protectorate without doing good to the inhabitants is naturally a sore point with political officers. It is no exaggeration to say the caravan people do only harm to our natives. They sell and buy no wares en route, and as regards foodstuffs, what necessities they do not bring with them they practically filch from the inhabitants.

The rest houses throughout the Protectorate compare favourably with those of other African Colonies and Dependencies. They have all been repaired during the year, and many new ones have been erected at little cost and without undue calls for labour on the chiefs and inhabitants.

It is proposed to take over the ferry at Yeji from the beginning of the year 1911, and to run it in future as a Government concern. It is estimated that it will bring in £400 to £500 per annum in tolls. On the other hand it is calculated that the cost of running it will work out at close on £300.

The working of the ferry was formerly in the hands of the Chief of Yeji, and was most unsatisfactory. There was a great deal of extortion in connection with it, and there was no fixed scale of charges. The Chief of Yeji is being compensated to the extent of £120 per annum in future, irrespective of what the ferry brings in. This is considered a very fair allowance for a man in his position.

Other numerous ferries are in the hands of minor local chiefs. Government servants and loads are crossed free. The Administration assists the people in the matter of canoes, and in one instance, viz., at Zougoiri, on the White Volta, near Gambaga, where there was formerly considerable traffic, there are two paid canoemen. This arrangement can now cease, as in future all stores for outstations in the North-Eastern Province will be distributed via Zouaragu.

The Preventive Service was extended during the year under review. Special reports have been rendered by Mr. Ross and others on the subject. There are now preventive stations at Kunkwa, Kadenge, Kpabia, Dakar, Grubi, Sung, Sirbo, Gambaga, and Bawku on the eastern or German frontier.

There is no doubt that the institution of these stations and general supervision by the Preventive Service Department have effectually checked the import of goods from German territory that formerly paid no dues.

It is easy to criticise, but, considering the amount of stone and timber available close at hand and the large amount of labour, skilled and otherwise, employed, building appears to progress somewhat slowly.

Cement is, of course, a very serious item of expense, consequently the pointing of walls and other finishing touches are somewhat skimped. This, I consider is, in the end, false economy, as it results in the annual patching up of buildings which, if properly finished in the first instance, would not be required. Apart from this, however, all the buildings have an unfinished appearance.

During the year one bungalow has been completed. There are now, including the Residency, four bungalows. One of these is a double quarter. A fifth bungalow is in course of construction.

A new native hospital has been built. The main portion of this, ward, stores, dispensary, &c., are finished; but numerous minor buildings, such as mortuary, dresser's quarters, &c., remain to be done.

Towards the end of the year under review, our vote was exhausted, and all work was shut down. This was most unfortunate as of course the last two months of the year and the first three are those most suitable for building. The dry weather has set in and labour is available, as, the harvest being gathered and the planting season not yet commenced, no agriculture is being carried on for the time being.

No building operations of any extent have taken place at outstations. The new station at Zouaragu, in the North-Eastern Province, has been laid out, and will be completed early in 1911. The houses adopted are of unambitious design. Circular huts of 24 feet diameter with thick 10 feet high walls and thatched roofs are considered the most suitable. Each European house has three such huts, one as living-room, one as bedroom, and the third as a store. Kitchens, boys' houses, &c., are also provided.

A fort is also being built at Zouaragu which will contain all military and civil stores, arms house, dispense magazine, treasury vault, cells, &c. Thus all Government property will be in one enclosure under one guard. The buildings are flat-roofed and fireproof.

All buildings at outstations have been repaired during the year.

A house at Wa fell in during the year, injuring the Provincial Commissioner, Captain Moutray Read, who was subsequently invalided.

The provision of labour for building, roadmaking, and local transport within the people's own districts does not fall hardly on

them, provided it only occupies them when they are not needed on their farms. To employ large numbers to go down country and bring up loads is, however, another matter. Captain Read, in his report, notes that labourers who were sent down to the mines have in some degree overcome their prejudice to going south, and have returned down country in small numbers in search of work. The prejudice against going south, particularly to Ashanti, is however generally throughout the Protectorate as strong as ever.

Captain Read states:—"There is no difficulty in obtaining labour in this Province for local work.

"Labour recruiting for the mines has ceased and the boys paid off, a large proportion of the boys however have not returned, and have probably found remunerative work in Coomassie and on the Ashanti-Northern Territories Road, as a sum of over £150 is unclaimed in Wa, that being the balance of wages due to them.

"Many boys who went to the mines have returned to Coomassie and other places to find work again.

"During the year 376 boys went to Tarkwa and Obuase; of these 190 have returned; they worked on an average 6 months."

The Commissioner of the North-Eastern Province does not make any special remarks on the subject of labour. A large number of men were needed to go to Tamale Port (Yappi) to bring up telegraph material; in all 500 odd loads were transported up country, but they were carried up by instalments and the labour was employed from various districts.

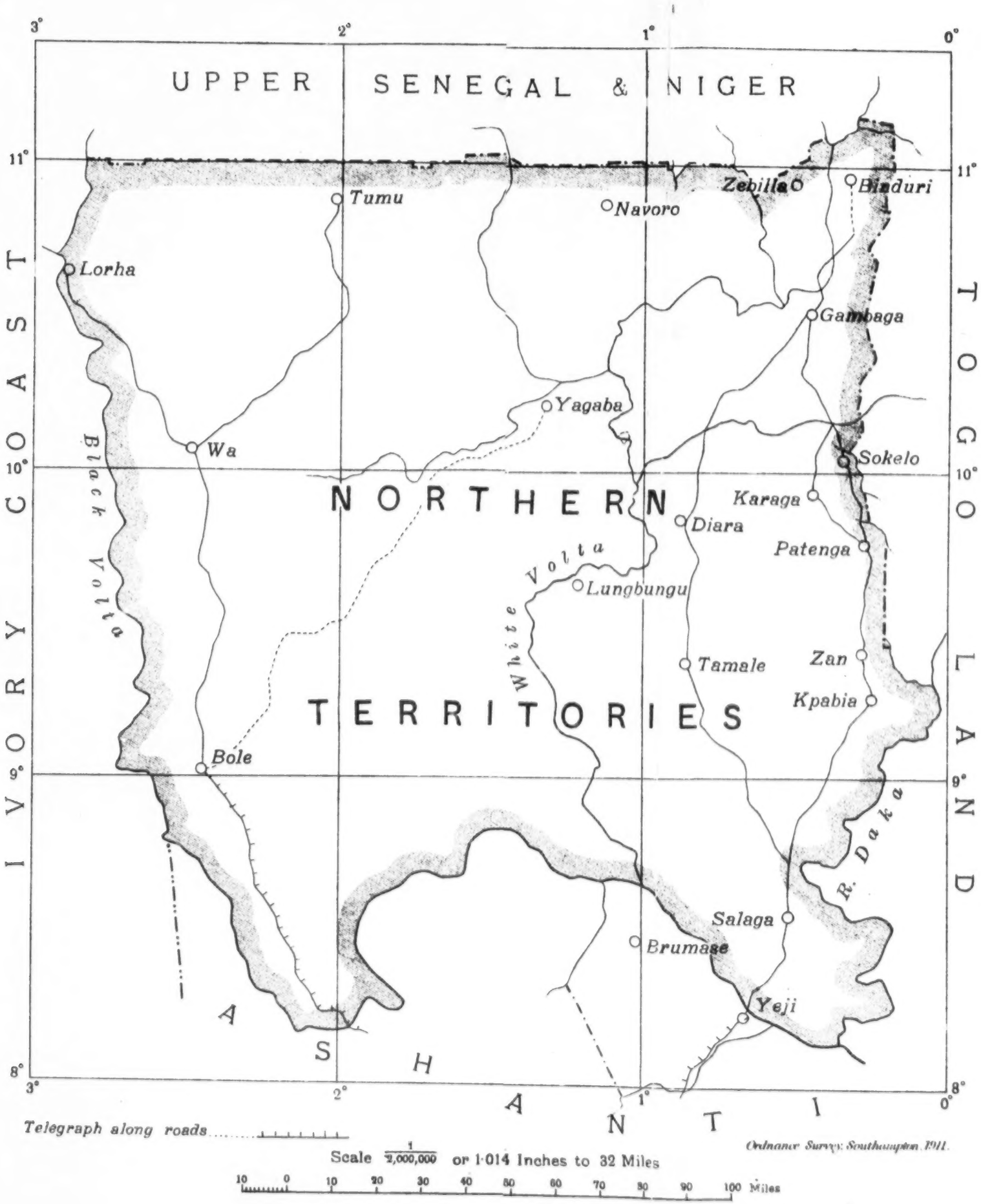
Local labour for building and road-making is always available in the North-Eastern Province, provided tact is used and each district contributes its fair share.

A company of the Gold Coast Regiment is quartered in the North Eastern Province of the Protectorate. At present it is at Zouaragu. It supplies no detachments. There is no doubt that companies working as complete units under their own officers are, from every point of view, far more satisfactory than those split up into detachments. The moral effect on the natives is far greater, and the discipline and training of the men are easier to maintain.

The behaviour of the company under Captain Furnell has throughout been exemplary. Although food before the harvest in November was short there were no cases of looting or pilfering by the troops. The cantonment supply market is not yet thoroughly satisfactory but Bari and Bolgatanga markets, each about 2½ miles distant, are attended by the soldiers' women. Provosts from the troops and constabulary attend these and there has been no trouble as regards under-payment. A number of Fra-Fras bring food to barracks and sell direct to the troops.

An excellent range up to 1,000 yards has been completed by military labour about three miles from cantonments.

A most unfortunate fire occurred in barracks on the 14th November. Practically all rifles belonging to the company were burned. Ammunition and specie were saved. The incident was fully reported on at the time. The troops were temporarily armed with carbines from Tamale, and the rifles were replaced a month later. The buildings in the new fort will all be fireproof and with flat roofs.


3°
2°
1°
0°
UPPER SENEGAL & NIGER
11°
Zebilla
Binduri
Tumu
Navoro
Lorha
Gambaga
Yagaba
Wa
Sokelo
10°
NORTHERN
Karaga
Diara
Patenga
Lungbungu
Tamale
Zan
Kpabia
TERRITORIES
Bole
9°
Salaga
Brumase
Yeji
8°
IVORY COAST
GOLD COAST
Black Volta
White Volta
R. Daka
Telegraph along roads
Scale 1/2,000,000 or 1·014 Inches to 32 Miles
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 Miles
Ordnance Survey, Southampton, 1911.

Captain Armitage, D.S.O., was appointed as Chief Commissioner on the 28th January, 1910. He arrived in the Northern Territories on the 29th October, and took over the reins of Government on the 1st November, 1910. He unfortunately became ill with blackwater fever on the 29th November, and remained on the sick list until the end of the year.

Major R. A. Irvine administered the Protectorate from the 1st January, 1910, until the 31st October, 1910.

No new political officers were appointed during the year and none were promoted.

The Protectorate suffered a great loss by the death in the United Kingdom of Mr. Reginald Palmer, District Commissioner. He was a great favourite with all his brother officials and was much liked by the natives.

The Protectorate suffered a similar loss by the death of Mr. A. J. Berney, District Commissioner, which occurred at Zouaragu on the 28th December, 1910, from acute dysentery. Mr. Berney had only recently returned to the country when he was taken ill. He was well liked and greatly respected by all who knew him, and his death was keenly felt by all his brother officials throughout the Northern Territories.

The political staff of the Protectorate is small, and, as has been pointed out, the duties of officials are many and varied, consequently little travelling and real political work is possible.

ARTHUR FESTING,
Commissioner,
North-Eastern Province, Northern Territories,
Acting Chief Commissioner,
Northern Territories.

Tamale,
31st March, 1911.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
647	Gibraltar	1909
648	Sierra Leone	"
649	Somaliland	1909–1910
650	Bahamas	"
651	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
652	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
653	Ceylon	1909
654	Gold Coast	"
655	Nyasaland	1909–1910
656	Imperial Institute	1909
657	Fiji	"
658	Grenada	"
659	Hong Kong	"
660	Barbados	1909–1910
661	Swaziland	"
662	Jamaica	"
663	Straits Settlements	"
664	Trinidad and Tobago	1909–1910
665	Southern Nigeria	1909
666	Mauritius	"
667	British Honduras	"
668	St. Vincent	1909–1910
669	East Africa Protectorate	"
670	Uganda	"
671	British Guiana	"
672	St. Lucia	1909
673	Leeward Islands	1909–1910
674	Northern Nigeria	1909
675	St. Helena	1910
676	Gibraltar	"
677	Basutoland	1909–1910
678	Weihaiwei	1910
679	Gambia	"
680	Ashanti	"
681	Turks and Caicos Islands	1910
682	Falkland Islands	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
69	St. Helena	Fisheries.
70	Colonies	List of Laws relating to Patents, Trade Marks, &c.
71	Imperial Institute	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1906–7 and 1907–8.
75	West Indies	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8.
77	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 722

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1911.

(For Report for 1910, *see* No. 683.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
August, 1912.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LIMITED, FETTER LANE, E.C., and
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T. FISHER UNWIN, LONDON, W.C.

PRINTED BY
DARLING AND SON, LTD., BACON STREET, E.
1912.

[Cd. 6007—22.] *Price* 3½*d.*

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
I.—Financial	4
II.—Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	6
III.—Legislation	9
IV.—Education	9
V.—Government Institutions	10
VI.—Judicial Statistics	10
VII.—Vital Statistics	12
VIII.—Post and Telegraphs	13
IX.—Religion	14
X.—General Observations	15
Sketch Map.	

No. 722.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

(For Report for 1910, *see* No. 683.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Accra,
9th July, 1912.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, the Annual Report on the Northern Territories for the year 1911, together with a sketch map.

This report, in the absence from headquarters of the Chief Commissioner, who accompanied the Governor during his recent visit to the Northern Territories, has been compiled by Major R. A. Irvine, C.M.G., the senior Provincial Commissioner.

I have, &c.,

H. BRYAN,
Acting Governor.

The Right Honourable
Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

(25748—2.) Wt. 29478—571. 1125 & 90. 8/12. D & S. A 2

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR 1911.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The total revenue collected in the Northern Territories during 1911 amounted to £2,426, being an increase of £620 compared with the previous year.

The following comparative statement gives the increase or decrease in the year's revenue under all heads compared with 1910:—

Head.	1910.	1911.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Ferry Tolls	—	722	722	—
Hunting Licences	7	55	48	—
Court Fines and Fees	268	437	169	—
Market and Slaughter House Fees.	482	457	—	25
Sale of Live Stock	97	21	—	76
Sale of Stamps	140	182	42	—
Spirit Licences	10	10	—	—
Beer Licences	5	5	—	—
Firearms and Ammunition Licences.	596	414	—	182
Miscellaneous	183	98	—	85
Rents from Government Lands	18	25	7	—
Total	1,806	2,426	988	368

	£
Increase	988
Deduct Decrease	368
Net Increase	620

The increase shown under head Ferry Tolls is due to the Ferry at Yeji having been taken over by the Government from the 1st January.

Under the head Fines the increase shown is mainly due to more stringent enforcement of sanitary and revenue regulations.

The decrease under Sale of Live Stock is owing to the decrease in the number of cattle impounded for fines, &c.

The decrease shown under head Firearms and Ammunition Licences may be attributed to numbers of gun licences having been taken out during the latter part of 1910, in consequence of which the owners were not called upon to renew these licences again in 1911, especially as they were unable to purchase gunpowder in the Protectorate.

The decrease under Miscellaneous is due to the gradual reduction in the stock of European provisions, which were formerly stored for sale to European officials.

The customs duty collected by the Preventive Service along the Eastern Frontier is credited to the Colony; as also is that on all trade goods, &c., imported into the Northern Territories from Ashanti or the Colony.

I append hereunder a comparative statement showing expenditure charged against the Northern Territories under various heads in 1911, as compared with the previous year:—

Head.	1910.	1911.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Printing Office	1,266	1,349	83	—
Provincial and District Commissioners...	18	—	—	18
Treasury	442	504	62	—
Customs	274	514	240	—
Customs Preventive Services	942	2,473	1,531	—
Post and Telegraphs	608	859	251	—
Transport Department	590	697	107	—
Medical Department	7,771	7,355	—	416
Sanitation	326	1,617	1,291	—
Veterinary	130	276	146	—
Education	201	270	69	—
Agriculture...	1,027	1,242	215	—
Forestry	304	179	—	125
Gold Coast Regiment, W.A.F.F. ...	5,449	5,396	—	53
Northern Territories	25,473	28,252	2,779	—
Constabulary, N.T.	10,493	11,096	603	—
Ashanti and N.T. Roads Department ...	13,656	—	—	13,656
Public Works Department	383	387	4	—
Public Works Annually Recurrent ...	259	449	190	—
Public Works Extraordinary	3,283	1,666	—	1,617
Post and Telegraphs Extraordinary ...	2,337	504	—	1,833
Total	75,232	65,085	7,571	17,718

	£
Decrease	17,718
Deduct Increase	7,571
Net Decrease	10,147

The increase under Customs Preventive Services is mainly due to the purchase of new arms and equipment, and cost of officers' transport; under Sanitation, to the employment of more scavengers and labourers, and expenditure on sanitary materials.

The increase under Northern Territories is due to the addition to the establishment of an Assistant District Commissioner, pay of toll collector and ferrymen at Yeji, and to the increase in the local transport and the construction of bridges votes; the increase under Constabulary, to the purchase of saddlery, arms, and equipment which were ordered for 1910 but not received and accounted for until 1911. More gratuities were also paid.

The decrease under Ashanti and Northern Territories Roads Department is owing to its having been decided to discontinue the extension of the trunk road under construction in Ashanti, beyond Ejura.

The decrease under Post and Telegraph Extraordinary is accounted for by the work on the Gambaga extension having to be temporarily discontinued owing to lack of materials.

With regard to currency, the Acting Commissioner of the North Western Province reports that "there is a regular bureau at Wa for the exchange of 5-franc pieces to traders going south and north. The rate of exchange to those going south is 4*s*. 6*d*.; but it varies for those going North from 5*s*. to 6*s*. or more. Many women in markets will take either French or English money in exchange for goods."

In the North Eastern Province the Acting Commissioner reports that "copper coins are increasing in popularity, and it is hoped that a large supply will be available for distribution in 1912."

It has been mentioned in previous reports that the limited supply of money in circulation is due to the melting down of coinage for the manufacture of ornaments. This is contradicted by the Acting Commissioner of the North Eastern Province, with regard to Zouaragu District, and he attributes the scarcity to the fact that the trade of the country is in the hands of the natives who import trade goods and, receiving money in exchange, return to Coomassie or other southern towns with cash and there renew their stock and repeat the operation.

The cowry is still the chief medium of exchange in small transactions throughout the Protectorate, and it will probably remain so for some years. It is, however, proposed to introduce nickel coins of very low denominations into these Territories in 1912; and it is hoped that in time these coins will, to a large extent, take the place of cowries, at any rate in the principal markets of the Protectorate.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

The chief imports for sale in the Protectorate are cotton and woollen goods, silk handkerchiefs, cola nuts, salt, hardware, beads, brass rods, haberdashery, beer, tobacco, and European provisions.

The Northern Territories being purely agricultural, the exports are confined to live stock and indigenous products such as shea butter and dawa dawa. With regard to the live stock raised in the Protectorate and exported to Ashanti, it is gratifying to note that there is an increasing inclination on the part of the natives to take their cattle to Coomassie for sale. The quantity of shea butter and dawa dawa exported is increasing yearly, as both of these products find a ready sale in Ashanti and the Colony.

It was hoped that the opening of a branch of the British Cotton Growing Association in Tamale would have acted as a great stimulant to the growth of cotton for export, but, unfortunately,

so far this has not been the case, as the amount exported has been very small.

Trade satistics are kept at all stations, but, as has been previously pointed out, these statistics give only an approximate idea of the volume of imports and exports, owing to the number of roads along which trade passes, over which the Administration have no means of collecting statistics.

All Commissioners, however, report an increase in the amount of trade carried on in the principal markets of their respective provinces and districts; but report a decrease in the transit or caravan trade—especially in live stock. This decrease is attributed to the epidemic of lung-sickness which played havoc with cattle in Moshi in 1910.

In connection with the caravan trade it is interesting to note that a French trader who brought 360 head of cattle from Moshi sold them at Salaga to a syndicate of Mohammedan traders for £1,066.

The turnover in the European store in Tamale indicates clearly a steady increase in trade in the Southern Province since the store was opened in 1908; the sales have increased over 100 per cent., although not nearly so many artisans have been employed at Tamale during the past two years. It is also reported that the sales in a branch store at Salaga showed a considerably larger business in 1911 than in the previous year.

The opening of a new station at Zouaragu in the Fra Fra country in 1910, the transfer of the Company of the Gold Coast Regiment there, and the excellent effect of the Tong operations in the early part of the year, have given a great impetus to trade in that district.

During the year at Tamale-Port there has been a large increase in a number of houses built by salt traders, and an equally large increase in the number of compounds built by the local natives, which in itself indicates the growing importance of this town as a trading centre.

It is reported that there is an increase in the amount of British goods imported for sale in the principal markets; this is attributed to the fact that German goods, which were imported from Togoland before the establishment of the Preventive Service free of customs duty, now pay 10 per cent., and the traders are commencing to realize that British goods of the same quality can be brought up from Coomassie and sold at practically the same price with less trouble.

The demand for money is gradually making itself felt throughout the Protectorate. This is shown by the numbers of natives who are reported by the Acting Commissioners of both the North Eastern and North Western Provinces as having gone to Ashanti on their own account, in hope of finding employment; and numbers have also gone from the Southern Province with the same object.

As has been pointed out in the previous reports, there are no manufactories or mills in the Northern Territories. Simple

articles for local use and wear are made, *e.g.*, cloth of good quality from native-grown cotton, mats, baskets, rope, saddlery and leather goods, brass ornaments, and simple agricultural implements.

Fishing is carried on in a number of villages situated on the banks of the River Volta to meet local demands; and from the southern bend of the river for export to Ashanti.

The Protectorate, as has already been stated, is purely agricultural, and owing to the cost of transport bulky produce cannot be profitably exported: the people in consequence have no inducement to till more land than is sufficient to produce such foodstuffs as are necessary for their personal consumption. However, they are quick enough to recognise the advantage of trade, as is shown by the fact that around places like Tamale, Salaga, Tamale-Port, Zouaragu, and other important trading centres, where food can be sold for money, the natives have made great progress in extending the area of land under cultivation, and in various other ways have shown that the previous indifference was only due to lack of demand for their farm produce.

Increased interest has been taken by the chiefs and people in the work of the agricultural station at Tamale. Various experiments have been made at this station during the year in the rotation of crops, and in the comparison of different varieties of cotton, rice, fibres, &c. Foodstuffs, such as cassava, sweet potatoes, ginger, and peppers have been introduced, and are gradually being distributed to the native farmers. Bullocks have been successfully trained to draw carts and to plough.

A large number of ornamental trees and shrubs have been planted in the cantonments at Tamale, and they appear to be thriving very well.

To encourage cotton-growing, small cotton farms have been made in 18 villages, and in addition a considerable amount of cotton seed has been distributed.

The British Cotton Growing Association during the year completed a number of permanent buildings at Tamale, containing gins and a press, which are quite adequate to deal with all cotton likely to be purchased locally. A ginnery and a press-house, containing an hydraulic press, have also been erected at Tamale-Port, on the Volta River, to further compress bales for transport.

The price paid by the Association for native and American cotton has been increased respectively by $\frac{1}{4}d.$ and $\frac{1}{8}d.$ per lb., and it is hoped that this enhanced price may be an inducement to the natives to grow more cotton in 1912. The amount of cotton brought for sale during the past season has been very disappointing, but a considerable increase is expected next season.

The harvest throughout the Protectorate has been reported abundant; in consequence an ample supply of maize, guinea corn, millet, yams, beans, and rice was to be had in the markets.

In order to improve the local breed of cattle an experiment similar to that of 1909, of importing specially selected bulls from the United Kingdom, has been tried during the year, unfor-

tunately with a like result, as the bulls died on their journey from Coomassie. It is now proposed to start, under the superintendence of the Curator of the Agricultural Station, a herd of specially selected native cattle for experimental purposes.

III.—LEGISLATION.

During the year under review four Ordinances were enacted by the Governor,—three to amend the Northern Territories Administration Ordinance, 1902, and one to amend the Northern Territories Constabulary Ordinance.

Rules under section 22 of the Northern Territories Administration Ordinance of 1902 were made by the Chief Commissioner, and approved of by the Governor, with respect to regulations restricting the importation of merchandise to certain towns on or near the eastern frontier of the Protectorate; also amendments to the Rules made with respect to the slaughter tax.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The pupils in the Government Primary School at Tamale are reported to have made good progress during the year under review. In November, before the vacation, the Acting Provincial Commissioner thoroughly examined the pupils in the various standards, and reports that excellent progress has been made.

The average daily attendance was 56, against 62 in the previous year. This decrease is accounted for by the attendance of boys from Gambaga and Wa having been discontinued during the year, owing to their parents being unwilling to send them so far from their homes to school.

A Government School has now been opened at Gambaga; and it is proposed to open one at Wa.

Many of the boys attending school at Tamale are sons of chiefs and the remainder are drawn from the children of well-to-do natives. In September three intelligent boys were sent to the Technical School at Accra to complete their education.

It is very difficult to persuade parents to send any of their sons to the Government School; their reluctance being mainly due to the not unnatural fear that when their boys learn to read and write they will not be content to return to live with them again.

At Navarro there is a school attached to the Roman Catholic Mission, where a number of boys are boarded; in addition to these it is reported that about 50 boys received instruction in the school, on an average, three to four days a week.

The syllabus is that for infant classes, and some of the boys receive instruction in carpentry, but it is reported that the pupils have made little, if any, progress.

In the large towns where Mohammedans congregate classes are held by Mallams at which Mohammedan children are taught to repeat extracts from the Koran, and to read and write Arabic in a rudimentary fashion.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

There are no Government institutions in the Protectorate except the hospitals at Tamale, Salaga, Bole, Gambaga, Bawku, Zouaragu, Navarro, Wa, and Lorha, the agricultural station, and the Government primary school at Tamale.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

A report on the Northern Territories Constabulary has already been submitted by the Acting Commandant, from which it will be seen that the discipline and general efficiency of this useful force has been well maintained.

No change took place in the organization of the force during the year under review.

Fifty European saddles were issued to the mounted men during the month of August, and have proved entirely satisfactory. Sore backs are now of rare occurrence, and in consequence the percentage of horses always available for duty has increased greatly. The horses are on the whole of a good useful stamp.

The party of Constabulary who took part in the Tong Hills operations early in the year was very favourably commented on by both the Political Officer and the Officer Commanding the troops. One constable was killed in these operations.

During the year two non-commissioned officers were awarded the King's Police Medal for long and meritorious services; and the sergeant-major who was in charge of the party of the force at the Tong Hills operations has been granted the West African Distinguished Conduct Medal for his services.

The new gaol at Tamale was so far completed as to permit all prisoners in the temporary gaol to be transferred to it on the 3rd January. All long-sentence prisoners will now undergo their sentences at Tamale instead of being transferred to the Colony.

The only trade at present taught in the gaol is tailoring, but it is proposed that instruction in other trades will be given as soon as instructors and the necessary facilities are available.

At Gambaga, Bawku, Zouaragu, Navarro, Wa, Lorha, Bole, and Salaga there are minor gaols or lock-ups for the reception of short-sentence prisoners.

The gaol at Tamale is in charge of the Provincial Medical Officer, assisted by a native keeper of prisons and 12 temporary warders; and the district medical officers are in charge of the minor gaols in their respective stations.

The total number of prisoners admitted to the Tamale Gaol during the year was 134, of whom two escaped. The daily average of prisoners in this gaol was 45; and in all the minor gaols 47.

The general health of the prisoners in all gaols has been good, and their behaviour satisfactory.

Prisoners' rations are supplied, when possible, by contract, for which a sum not exceeding 3*d*. per diem is allowed.

The prisoners were engaged chiefly in sanitary work, water carrying, cleaning and keeping roads in repair at Tamale, and at the several stations.

In the Northern Territories trial is summary. English law, as modified by the Gold Coast and the Northern Territories Administrative Ordinances, is adhered to by Commissioners in dealing with criminal offences. Native customary law is followed, as far as possible, in matters relating to property, marriage and divorce, and the custody of children, &c. Every endeavour, however, is made by Commissioners to encourage the chiefs to use their lawful powers in the enforcement of native laws and customs, when such laws and customs are not opposed to equity and good governance, and to discourage direct appeal to the District Courts on minor matters to the ignoring of the authority of the chiefs by their people.

This system is working well and giving general satisfaction in the more civilized parts of the Protectorate, very few cases having been upset on appeal to the Commissioners' Courts. In the less civilized parts, *e.g.*, in the Zouaragu District, it is usually necessary to call in all parties to the Commissioner's Court, as it has been found that the chiefs do not enforce their decisions, due probably to lack of power and confidence.

In time, however, it is hoped that all these chiefs will gain the necessary confidence on finding that their authority is upheld, and that it will not then be found so often necessary to bring the disputants to the District Courts.

The following is the comparative table of crime, during the past four years as compiled for the Blue Book:—

—	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911
The number of offences reported to the police ...	434	528	403	800
The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrate.	434	528	403	800
The number of summary convictions :—				
1. For offences against the person	69	76	122	94
2. For slave dealing	3	—	—	—
3. For offences against property other than praedial larceny.	91	104	87	109
4. For offences against Health Acts	—	—	—	183
5. For offences against Master and Servant Acts	—	—	—	7
6. For other offences	221	276	196	255
The number of convictions in the Superior Courts :—				
1. For offences against person	4	1	—	7
2. For slave dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For offences against property other than praedial larceny.	1	—	7	—
4. For other offences	1	10	13	—
The number of persons acquitted :—				
1. In the Inferior Courts	20	71	57	141
2. In the Superior Courts	—	2	2	4

This return shows a decrease in the number of convictions for serious crime in the Superior Courts as compared with previous year; and a considerable increase in the number of convictions in the Inferior Courts. This increase is, however, to a great extent, due to the more stringent enforcement of the sanitary regulations than to an increase of crime in the Protectorate.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The population of the Northern Territories according to the census completed in the year under review amounts to 361,806, of which 187,157 were males and 174,649 females.

These figures must not be taken as giving an accurate idea of the population of the Protectorate. This will be readily understood when it is borne in mind that only three special enumerators were appointed; and that no clerical assistance could be obtained from the chiefs or people as they are all illiterate, with very few exceptions. In consequence, the work of counting the people devolved almost entirely on the administrative staff in addition to their other duties.

The fear of taxation amongst the natives throughout the Protectorate deterred numbers from putting in an appearance to be counted, which is not to be wondered at, as in the adjacent territories of France and Germany all natives are taxed.

It was only possible to get a rough enumeration of the people in some parts of the North-Western Province and in the northern portion of the North-Eastern Province, as the towns in those parts of the country consist of large numbers of compounds, scattered over extensive areas, and it is estimated that only about two-thirds of the people in the latter Province have been counted.

It is impossible to compare the numbers of the population in 1901 with those of the recent Census, as only a portion of the Protectorate was then counted. The number counted was 107,964, and 210,000 was added for the remaining portion, making a total of 317,964 for the whole Protectorate, which at the time included the Kintampo District—since transferred to Ashanti.

The number of Europeans who resided in the Protectorate for short or long periods during the year has been 69; of these 59 were officials, the remainder being made up of five missionaries, three Cotton Growing Association officials, one merchant, and the wife of an official.

The daily average strength of the officials has been 22·85 and that of the non-officials 4·9.

The health of the Europeans compares very favourably with the previous year, as no deaths occurred, whereas in 1910 two deaths took place.

Two officials were invalided, one from blackwater fever and one for an injury to his ankle.

The health of native officials, troops, and constabulary is reported as having been good.

Only one case of sleeping sickness has been reported and it is satisfactory to note that no epidemics of either smallpox or cerebro-spinal meningitis have been reported.

The sanitary condition of all towns in which Europeans reside has been carefully attended to by the medical officers with very satisfactory results, and that of outlying villages has also been greatly improved during the past few years owing to the interest taken in the subject by Commissioners, and by medical officers travelling in their Districts more frequently than formerly.

The water supply, which still needs improvement at several stations, is receiving attention.

Tamale and Gambaga are the only stations in the Northern Territories where meteorological records are kept. The rainfall recorded during the year at these stations has been respectively 1·11 and 15·68 inches below the average for the previous three years.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

Station.	Temperature.						Rainfall.	Degrees of humidity.
	Solar maximum.	Minimum on grass.	Shade maximum.	Shade minimum.	Range.	Mean.	Amount in inches.	
	°	°	°	°	°	°		
Tamale ...	147·12	—	94·27	59·21	35·05	76·71	44·42	53·38
Gambaga ...	—	68·01	93·34	70·73	22·60	82·03	35·02	64·04

VIII.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

There are post and telegraph offices at the following towns:—Tamale, Salaga, Yeji, Wa, and Bole. Mails are also received and despatched at Gambaga, Bawku, Navarro, Zouaragu, and Lorha.

Between Tamale, Salaga, Yeji, and Coomassie there is a bi-

weekly service, and a weekly service between Tamale and other stations, and also between Wa and Coomassie, via Kintampo.

Parcels are received and despatched at all the above towns in accordance with the Postal Regulations of the Gold Coast Colony.

Money and postal orders on the United Kingdom and the Colony can be obtained at the post and telegraph offices.

At the end of the year the telegraph line from Tamale had reached a point within twelve miles of Gambaga. It is proposed to complete this extension in 1912.

The yearly increase in the number of letters received and despatched has been fully maintained. Although two permanent postmen were added to the establishment, 337 extra mail carriers had to be employed during the year between Salaga and Tamale. 721 bags of mails were received at Salaga for the north against 600 in 1910.

The sale of stamps at Tamale amounted to £182, being an increase of £52 compared with the previous year.

There is no record of the telegrams received and despatched at Tamale in 1910, but the following figures for 1911 may be of interest:—

	Received.	Despatched.
Official	2,884	2,539
Private	1,243	1,289

Some of the telephone instruments at Tamale need replacement. When this has been done all the Government offices and the Hospital will be connected by telephone, as well as some of the officers' quarters.

Tamale, Salaga and Yeji are in telephonic communication.

IX.—RELIGION.

The only Christian mission society in the Northern Territories is that of the Roman Catholic Fraternity of the White-Fathers, who started a mission in Navarro in 1906. As has been previously reported, they have now a well built station containing a commodious church, a large house for the missionaries, boys' school and quarters; and they report that there are over 300 adult catechumens who regularly attend the mission for religious instruction.

During the latter part of the year, the Reverend W. R. Griffin, Chairman and General Superintendent of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of the Gold Coast Colony, made an extended tour in the Protectorate with a view to opening mission stations therein.

The following figures taken from the Census returns give the

relative number of Christians, Mohammedans and Pagans in the three Provinces of the Protectorate:—

—	Christians.	Mohammedans.	Pagans.
Southern Province	131	37,358	44,402
North-Eastern Province ..	93	1,492	161,887
North-Western Province ...	9	3,748	112,686

The Christians shown are all Europeans or Coast natives, with the exception of the converts made by the Roman Catholic Mission at Navarro.

From the foregoing figures it will be seen that the Mohammedan religion has not made much headway except in the Southern Province. Of the number shown for this Province 32,463 reside in the Tamale District, 3,919 in the Salaga, and 976 in the Bole Districts. Two thirds of those in the Salaga District reside in Salaga, and, in the Bole District, Larabanga is the chief Mohammedan centre.

In the North-Eastern Province they reside chiefiy in Gambaga, Wale Wale, and Bawku, and in the North-Western Province in Wa, Gurupisi, Nasa and Wahabu.

The Mohammedanism followed by the indigenous natives of the Northern Territories is at best of an indifferent type. Many of those who claim to belong to that faith do so because they think it adds to their prestige, and although outwardly professing to be followers of the Prophet adhere to many of their former pagan customs.

The consensus of opinion is that Mohammedanism is making little progress.

Crude animism and ancestor worship best describe the faith of the pagan portion of the natives of the Protectorate.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Administration.—Captain C. H. Armitage, C.M.G., D.S.O., the Chief Commissioner, administered the Protectorate from the 1st January until the 18th February, when he had unfortunately to be invalided to the Canary Islands, owing to a serious attack of blackwater fever; he resumed duty again on his return on the 28th May until the 27th September.

Public Works.—At Tamale the following permanent buildings have been built or completed during the year:—

Two dressers' rooms, a dressing shed and a mortuary have been added to the Hospital.

Store roofs have been built over twenty cells in the Prison, and corrugated iron secondary roofs fixed over forty cells.

An underground water tank with a 5,000 gallon capacity has been built at the Chief Commissioner's bungalow.

No. 6 bungalow has been completed and a new post office built.

A number of minor works have also been executed and some furniture made.

At Navarro, a second storey has been added to the Provincial Commissioner's house.

At Zouaragu, the Fort referred to in last year's Report as being under construction has been completed. It contains an arms house, magazine, treasury vault, prison cells, and civil and military stores.

At Gambaga, a new Court House has been commenced.

At Bole, quarters for the medical officer, guard-room, prison, post office and Commissioner's house have been completed.

At Wa, the Commissioner's new quarters and a well which is reported to give a good supply of water have been completed. In addition all the station buildings were re-roofed and put in a state of good repair.

At Lorha, a well from which it is expected to obtain an adequate supply of water, even in the driest season, has been sunk, and 24 market stalls built.

At Salaga, a new prison has been built.

All the buildings referred to at outstations are more or less of a temporary nature, having been built with swish or sun-dried bricks, with glass roofs.

During the year great progress has been made in the building and construction of new roads throughout the Protectorate, especially in the North-Eastern Province, and existing roads well maintained.

The principal roads completed or under construction in the several Provinces were:—

Southern Province.

Tamale—Nasia. The re-formation of 21½ miles from Savelugu and the formation of 16¼ miles of the uncompleted portion of this road in 1910. In addition stone culverts have been built, leaving 16 culverts to complete the road.

Tamale—Kunbungu. 7½ miles completed and the remaining 5½ miles partially constructed.

Tamale-Port—Daboya. The uncompleted portion of this road in 1910, between Kitto and South Kadinga, has been partially constructed.

Tamale—Tamale Port. Re-formation of 2 miles and a diversion of one mile were completed to facilitate the construction of two trestle bridges, measuring respectively 60 feet by 10 feet and 45 feet by 9 feet, which have been built.

The scarp at Konkori, on the Wa-Daboya road, has been rendered passable by blasting away a large quantity of stone.

North-Eastern Province.

Navarro to the Sissili River, via Chuchuluga, Tiana and Nankon—distance 24 miles, width 24 feet.

Wale Wale—Dua—distance 18 miles, width 16 feet.

Wale Wale—White Volta River, via Maibindiga and Gambaga, has been re-formed, and the steep scarp near the White Volta has been made negotiable.

The following roads have been trenched:—

Winduri to Paragu, Tong to Bari market, Bolgatanga to Sambruno, and about four miles of the Zouaragu-Nangudi road. A road has also been under construction between Tilli and Bawku, via Zebilla, during the year.

North-Western Province.

New roads have been made from Lorha to the boundary with the Tumu District. The road from Wa to the Sissili River, via Lorha, has been well cleared; and on the section in the Lorha District of this road some good temporary bridges have been built.

Rest-Houses.

In all Provinces existing rest-houses have been put in thorough repair and many new ones built. They exist now in every town of any importance in the Protectorate.

Transport.

The stores required for use in these Territories are sent from Coomassie to Salaga and Kintampo respectively by the Transport Department, and are transported from these towns to their final destination by carriers engaged locally, who are employed, as far as the exigencies of the service will permit, in their own Districts. They receive 6*d*. a day when carrying loads, and 3*d*. a day on the return journey, the Chiefs who supply them being paid 1*d*. a day for each carrier employed.

The demand for carriers for the transport of Government stores, &c. has been very heavy in the Tamale and Salaga Districts during the year. This will be relieved, however, to a certain extent by the enlistment of a permanent gang of carriers in 1912, the necessary expenditure having been allowed for in the Estimates.

It having been decided not to carry the proposed Coomassie-Tamale Trunk Road, now under construction in Ashanti, beyond Ejura, the question of utilizing the River Volta as our main line of communication with the coast is receiving serious consideration. It is hoped that it will be found feasible so to use the river, as the future development of these Territories depends so largely on cheap and reliable transport facilities, which at present do not exist.

Ferries.

The ferries throughout the Protectorate are run by the Chiefs in their respective districts, with the exception of the ferries on

the River Dakar, which for some years have been under the control of the Preventive Service; and that at Yeji on the River Volta, which was taken over by the Administration on the 1st January, 1911.

The Chief who formerly worked this ferry has been granted an annual sum as compensation. Many of the canoes on the ferries worked by the Chiefs are small and unserviceable, and it is proposed to replace those on the most important rivers and streams with steel canoes or boats.

Preventive Service.

Reports on the Preventive Service, which has a number of stations along the eastern frontier of these Territories, from the River Dakar in the south to Bawku in the north, have already been submitted to the Comptroller of Customs giving details of the year's work, which from all accounts has been very satisfactory. Numbers of seizures have been made, and in consequence it is reported that more goods from the Colony and Ashanti are now being sold in the Protectorate than formerly, and the discipline of the men appears to have been very well maintained throughout the year.

Immigration and Emigration.

On the subject of immigration and emigration the following extracts from the Provincial Reports may be of interest. The Acting Commissioner of North-Eastern Province reports as follows:—

"Two small villages have come into existence in the Gambaga District peopled by natives from German territory who desire to avoid the labour laws in force there. Natives from Nantunia and Kadaree on the French side of the frontier came in requesting to have the boundary altered so as to bring them into British territory. On being told this was impossible, but that they were at liberty to settle on our side, they decided to remain in their own land.

"During the dry weather, when nothing is done on the land, natives are commencing to go to Coomassie in search of work, but they return again at the end of three months at the outside. This practice may in time extend and eventually be a source of supply for labour at the mines."

The Acting Commissioner, North-Western Province, reports as follows—

"There can hardly be said to be any immigration into the Province; the old myth, that large numbers of people may be expected to come back from those taken away by Samory, Barbatu, and other raiders, is now quite exploded; if the possible numbers taken away and the time that has elapsed be taken into consideration, it is possible that a hundred persons have gone back this year and every year the number will get less.

"As far as emigration is concerned there is no such thing in the true sense of the word; but for the purpose of trading or finding work for short periods there is an undoubted increase in the numbers leaving the Province for Ashanti. Dagartis and

Lobis may be seen in batches of five to twenty going south to find work. The Grunshis also go, but more for the purpose of trade. The numbers are as yet so small as not in any way to interfere with the crops or labour supply."

And the Acting Commissioner of the Southern Province reports as follows:—

"No cases of either immigration and emigration have been reported in the Tamale or Salaga District. In the Bole District, the Commissioner reports that the people of Wasipe, a small hamlet on the Kintampo road, have deserted the place and probably crossed into French territory."

Game shot.

A return of game shot by Europeans has already been submitted. No information is obtainable of the quantity killed by natives, but judging from the shooting trophies to be seen in many villages it must be considerable.

Climate.

The climate of the Northern Territories, like the rest of West Africa, is unhealthy for Europeans.

Leprosy.

With regard to the leper settlement referred to in the Annual Report for 1910, no reports have been received from the Medical Officers of any increase in this disease either in the Bawku or in any other District in the Protectorate.

Labour.

There has been no difficulty in obtaining the necessary labour for Government purposes or private enterprise during the year under review, except in the Tamale and Salaga District, where the number of carriers required for transport, as has been already pointed out, is very heavy.

There are no openings for white labour in the Northern Territories. The rates of wages for unskilled native labour range from 6*d*. to 10*d*. a day; all skilled labour has to be imported from the Colony or Ashanti, and the usual daily wage for carpenters, masons, sawyers, blacksmiths, &c., is from 1*s*. 9*d*. to 3*s*. 6*d*.

Survey.

A general survey of the Protectorate was commenced, during the latter part of the year, by an officer of the Royal Engineers and two surveyors under the direction of the Director of Surveys of the Colony.

Coronation.

Festivities in honour of His Majesty's Coronation were held at all Stations, where the chiefs assembled in full force and displayed the greatest loyalty and enthusiasm.

State of Country and Native Affairs.

During the year under review the state of the country may be described as very satisfactory—as the only part of the Protectorate where the Administration met with any opposition has been from the natives living on, or at the base of, the Tong or Separi Hills, in the Zouaragu District.

It was hoped that the opening of a station at Zouaragu, about 4½ miles north-east of these hills, in April, 1910, and the moral effect of the transfer of the Company of the Gold Coast Regiment there, would have had the effect of making these hostile natives law-abiding, especially when they found that our intentions were friendly towards them, and that only those who defied the authority of the Government would be punished. Unfortunately this hope was not realized, as they refused to obey all orders sent them, and openly showed their defiance by attacking and robbing traders —not only in their own neighbourhood, but also at places miles distant. In consequence it was found necessary to use force to vindicate the authority of the Government. This was accomplished with complete success in March by a force under the command of Captain G. O. M. Furnell, of the Gold Coast Regiment, with Major A. H. Festing, C.M.G., D.S.O., as Political Officer. Detailed reports have already been submitted on the subject, but it may be added that the subjugation of these people has had a great moral effect not only on the surrounding country, but also on the whole of the North-Eastern Province.

A broad road has been built from Tong, across these hills, to Paragu, viâ Winduri; and a path, bordered with stones, has been made round the hills, at 300 yards distance from their base, and no natives are permitted to farm or live within the boundary made by this path.

In June the Chief Commissioner visited all the villages in this hitherto hostile area, and was well received everywhere; and subsequently a number of headmen and people from these villages attended the festivities held in honour of His Majesty's Coronation at Zouaragu.

An important feature in connection with native affairs has been the selection and appointment of head chiefs over the principal tribes of the Zouaragu District, and the selection of influential natives to act as sub-chiefs of the various sections of these tribes, where none previously existed: the object of these appointments being to build up a native administration in this district, similar to that followed in other districts of the Protectorate. Hitherto, the majority of the natives of the Zouaragu District have been passive resisters, as far as obeying the chiefs was concerned. Heads of families, if sufficiently powerful, were, formerly, a law unto themselves; and although the language spoken by the various tribes in this district is reported to be of the same origin, yet so many dialects have been evolved in the lapse of time that natives of the same tribe, living only ten miles apart, have been known to be unable to understand each other.

Considering the difficulties which have had to be dealt with, very favourable progress has been made in getting the people to realize that their chiefs are no longer to be considered figure

heads, and that in consequence all their lawful orders must be obeyed.

In the Navarro District, chiefs have also been appointed over the Kanjarga and Grunshi Tribes.

The Na of Mamprusi has been taken by a Commissioner for an extended tour in the North-Eastern Province, and has been everywhere acclaimed as overlord of the chiefs of all the towns he visited. It is interesting to note that this has been the first occasion on which a Na of Mamprusi has ever left the neighbourhood of Gambaga and Nalerigu. This chief has now been appointed the paramount chief of the North-Eastern Province.

The chief of Pembi, the paramount chief of the Salaga District, visited Tamale for the first time to attend a palaver.

In all Provinces the relations of the chiefs with the Government and with each other have been very satisfactory throughout the year, with the exception of those, already referred to, in the vicinity of the Tong Hills.

In conclusion, with regard to the state of the Protectorate generally, the Chief Commissioner desires it to be recorded as his opinion that solid progress has been made from year to year; and where a year ago, in some parts of the northern districts of the Protectorate, a thatched roof was a rare sight, owing to fear of incendiary raids, flat clay-made roofs are now an exception.

R. A. IRVINE,
Provincial Commissioner,
For the Chief Commissioner,
Northern Territories.

Tamale,
28th May, 1912.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

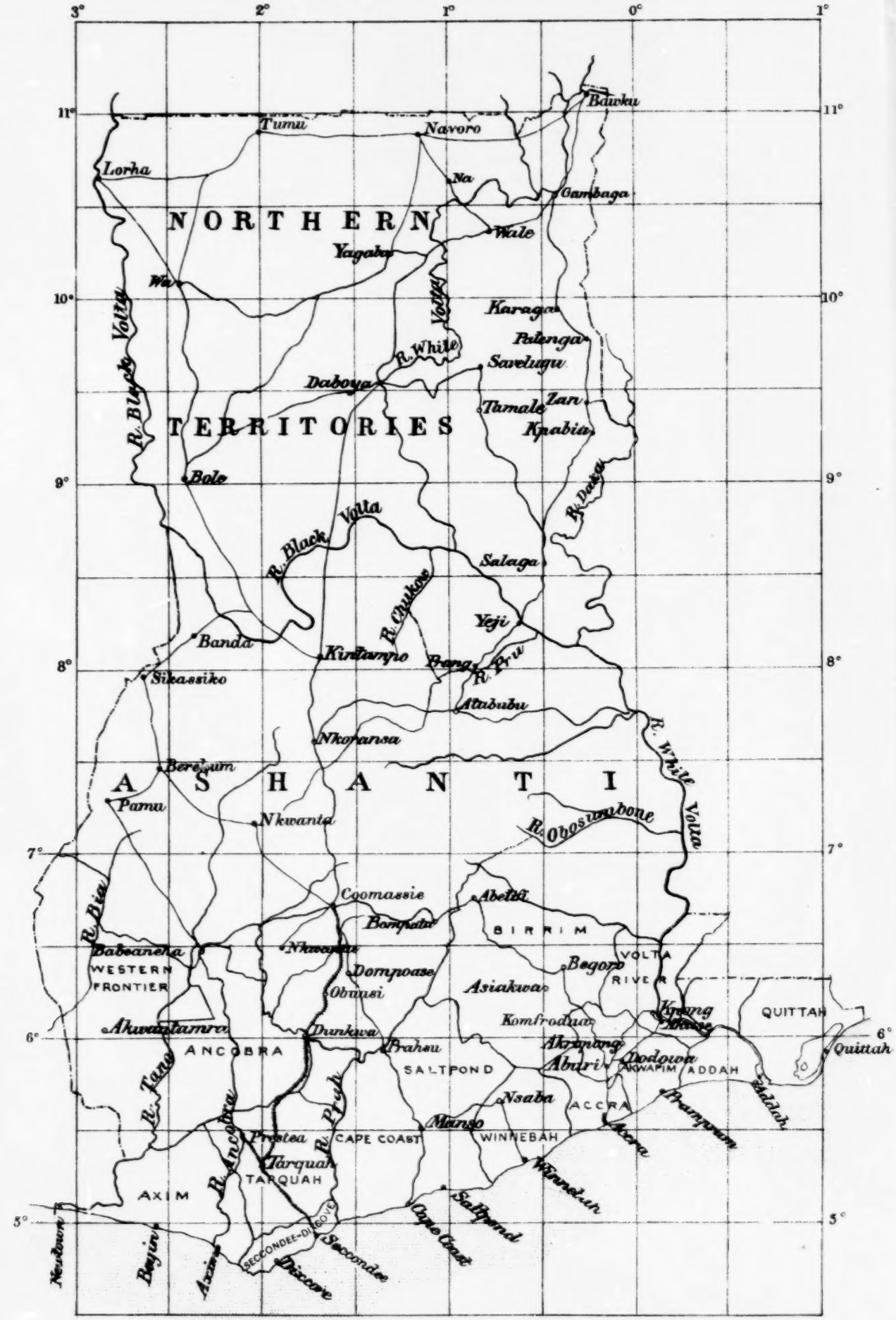
The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
697	Swaziland	1910–1911
698	Barbados	"
699	Trinidad and Tobago	"
700	Mauritius	1910
701	Grenada	"
702	British Guiana	1910–1911
703	Jamaica	"
704	Northern Nigeria	"
705	East Africa Protectorate	"
706	British Honduras	1910
707	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
708	Uganda	1910–1911
709	Straits Settlements	1910
710	Basutoland	1910–1911
711	Leeward Islands	"
712	St. Vincent	"
713	St. Lucia	1910
714	St. Helena	1911
715	Weihaiwei	"
716	Ceylon	1910–1911
717	Gibraltar	1911
718	Gambia	"
719	Ashanti	"
720	Falkland Islands	"
721	Seychelles	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
71	Imperial Institute	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1906–7 and 1907–8.
75	West Indies	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8.
77	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.



Ordnance Survey Office, Southampton, 1912.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34–40, BACON STREET, E.

1912.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 765.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1912.

(For Report for 1911, *see* No. 722.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
September, 1913.

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CONTENTS

	PAGE
I.—Financial	6
II.—Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	7
III.—Legislation	12
IV.—Education	13
V.—Government Institutions	14
VI.—Judicial Statistics	14
VII.—Vital Statistics	16
VIII.—Posts and Telegraphs	18
IX.—Religion	19
X.—General Observations	20
Map	

No. 765.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST.

(For Report for 1911, *see* No. 722.)

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Accra,
14th July, 1913.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Report on the Northern Territories for the year 1912, which has been prepared by the Chief Commissioner, Captain C. H. Armitage, C.M.G., D.S.O.

2. The revenue of the Protectorate amounted to £2,994, being a net increase of £568 as compared with that of 1911.

3. The expenditure for 1912 amounted to £78,894, a sum exceeding the expenditure for 1911 by £13,809.

4. It is satisfactory to note that a steady increase is to be observed in the trade carried on between the Northern Territories and the Colony *viâ* Ashanti, and, to a minor extent, between the Protectorate and Togoland. The use of native robes of European manufacture is reported to be rapidly spreading among the inhabitants of the Protectorate, which is satisfactory as indicating that a higher standard of living is becoming more general among a people who, for the first time in their history, are making acquaintance with the blessings of security and peace.

5. The only exports of any considerable value are the cattle, a steady stream of which are driven from the Northern Territories to Kumasi, whither also a certain number of sheep and a few score of horses are annually conveyed for sale. For the rest, the resources of the Northern Territories, so far as is at present known, are purely agricultural; and the possibilities of an export trade in

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agricultural produce being developed hang on the two questions of labour and transport. At the present time the young men of the Protectorate can amass far more money by seeking work in the Colony for a few years than by any use to which they could put their energies while continuing to reside and work in their own country during a much more prolonged period.

Many years will elapse, and many changes will have to be wrought in the existing circumstances of the Protectorate, before agricultural enterprises on at all a considerable scale can be here undertaken with any prospect of financial success. The cost of transport of produce to the coast is prohibitive, and would devour the profits which any agricultural venture could reasonably be expected to yield. As an agricultural country, moreover, there are no grounds for believing that the Northern Territories stand possessed of any natural advantages which are not equalled or surpassed by the large undeveloped areas still available in the Colony and in Ashanti. It is therefore to be anticipated that the economic progress of the Northern Territories is certain to be slow, and that for, it is probable, many decades to come, the expenditure will continue to be out of all proportion to the revenue.

6. The success of the administration of the Northern Territories, however, is not, I submit, to be judged by the returns of revenue or expenditure, nor yet by trade statistics. A population which is probably considerably in excess of the 361,806 shown in the census returns for 1911 has been rescued from the tyranny of slave-raiders, from the horrors of frequent inter-tribal warfare, and from the miseries and privations which these things brought in their train. The very meaning of security and peace has only during the past few years dawned upon these people; and already, as a study of Captain Armitage's Report will show, the native population is "finding itself." The people come and go freely without fear of molestation. The chiefs are being taught to realise their powers and their responsibilities, and are ranging themselves, it is satisfactory to note, on the side of law and order. Serious crime is decreasing, and that at a time when our officers are annually getting into closer and closer touch with the natives, and crime is therefore more easily detected, and less easy to conceal.

I submit that a rich and prosperous Colony, such as the Gold Coast, can be content to have a share in the furtherance of work of this character, and has no reason to grudge the expenditure, far in excess of the revenue, which it is now, and for many years to come will continue to be, called upon to provide, in order that this work may be allowed to go forward without check or interruption.

7. Turning now to matters of smaller importance, it is satisfactory to note that the nickel coinage recently introduced has rapidly become popular; and this, I venture to think, may be regarded as a good augury for the success of the new silver coinage throughout the Gold Coast Colony and its dependencies.

8. In spite of a greatly decreased rainfall, the harvest was generally good; and some progress has been made by the British

Cotton Growing Association in spreading among the native population a knowledge of cotton cultivation, and in providing the peasantry with seed.

9. The health of the European officers employed in the Northern Territories was not so good in 1912 as it was in 1911; but where so small a total number is in question, the fluctuations of the health statistics from year to year are certain to be violent, and to such fluctuations no special significance is ordinarily to be attached.

10. As the Chief Commissioner points out, lack of adequate transport facilities is the main difficulty with which the Northern Territories have to contend. It must be remembered, however, that a similar lack is acutely felt, not only in the Northern Territories, but even in the more developed and, comparatively speaking, accessible districts of the Colony itself; and until the Colony and Ashanti have been thoroughly opened up and developed, the Northern Territories must be content to await their turn. For a long time to come, therefore, any idea of the construction of extensive public works designed to render the Northern Territories more accessible must be suffered to stand over; and the Government of the Dependency must be content to confine its energies, in the matter of public works, to the improvement of a few main routes, such as, for instance, the construction of the piece of road through the difficult swamp between Yeji and Makongo, which has recently been approved, and the upkeep of chief's roads throughout the Northern Territories through the agency of the chief's and their people.

11. It is satisfactory to note that the topographical survey of the Northern Territories is making good progress. The Director of Surveys has recently submitted for my inspection a specimen of a portion of the completed map, which is an excellent piece of work.

12. The paragraphs dealing with *Administration* and with *Native Affairs*, and in a lesser degree those which relate to *Judicial Statistics* are, perhaps, the most interesting in the Report. In them is to be found an indication of the nature and results of the fine work which is being done in the Northern Territories by Captain Armitage, Major Irvine, and their colleagues and subordinates,—work the value and effect of which I have attempted to describe in paragraph 5 of this Despatch.

I have, &c.,

HUGH CLIFFORD.

Governor.

The Right Honourable
Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR 1912.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The total revenue collected in the Northern Territories during 1912 amounted to £2,994, being an increase of £568 compared with previous year.

The following comparative statement gives the increase or decrease in the year's revenue under all heads compared with 1911:—

Head.	1911.	1912.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Ferry Tolls	722	987	265	—
Hunting Licences	55	47	—	8
Court Fines and Fees	438	415	—	23
Market and Slaughter House Fees.	457	452	—	5
Sale of Live Stock	21	50	29	—
Sale of Stamps, &c.	182	438	256	—
Spirit Licences	10	10	—	—
Beer and Wine Licences ...	5	5	—	—
Firearms and Ammunition Licences.	414	390	—	24
Miscellaneous	98	176	78	—
Rents from Government Lands	24	24	—	—
Total	2,426	2,994	628	60

	£
Increase	628
Deduct Decrease	60
Net Increase	568

The following comparative statement gives the expenditure charged against the Northern Territories under various heads in 1912, compared with the previous year, 1911:—

Head.	1911.	1912.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Printing Office	1,349	1,584	235	—
Treasury	504	404	—	100
Customs	514	386	—	128
Customs Preventive Services	2,473	1,592	—	881
Post and Telegraphs	859	931	72	
Transport Department	697	691	—	6
Medical	7,355	7,903	548	—
Sanitation	1,617	886	—	731
Veterinary	276	292	16	—

Head.	1911.	1912.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Education	270	587	317	—
Agriculture...	1,242	1,604	362	—
Forestry	179	266	87	—
Gold Coast Regiment, W.A.F.F. ...	5,396	5,768	372	—
Northern Territories	27,252	30,400	3,148	—
Constabulary, N.T.	11,096	11,283	187	—
Ashanti and N.T. Roads Department ...	—	11,751	11,751	—
Public Works Department	387	881	494	—
Public Works Annually Recurrent ...	449	458	9	—
Public Works Extraordinary	2,666	1,227	—	1,439
Post and Telegraphs Extraordinary ...	504	—	—	504
Total	65,085	78,894	17,598	3,789

	£
Increase	17,598
Deduct Decrease	3,789
Net Increase	13,809

In June last a nickel coinage of three denominations—one penny, one half-penny, and one-tenth of a penny—was introduced into the Protectorate, and has proved to be an unqualified success. It is extremely popular with the natives, and the fears expressed by several officers that its circulation would seriously affect the native cowrie currency, and that the Government might be called upon eventually to compensate the holders of that currency, on account of its having been ousted from the markets by the nickel coinage, have proved to be without foundation; in fact, the nickel coinage has fixed automatically the value of the cowrie, which, prior to the introduction of the former, had a rate of exchange that fluctuated between 200 to 300 cowries for threepence. Cowries are now readily exchanged at the rate of 100 for one penny, and will remain on the market for some years to come as many articles are sold there for five cowries. This currency is also used in payment for "head-money" on marriage.

Natives now go to market with their money strung, necklace fashion, round their necks, and the nickel has completely superseded the unpopular and insanitary bronze coinage. No more of the latter should be issued.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

Although trade statistics are kept at stations situated on the principal trade routes in this Dependency, the figures so obtained cannot pretend to represent accurately the volume of trade in imports or exports. This is to be accounted for by the facts that the registration of live stock and trade goods is voluntary, and that many trade routes—notably that from the north through

Daboya to Kintampo—do not pass through any provincial or district stations. A general increase in imports is reported by the Commissioners.

These consist principally of cotton and woollen goods, silk handkerchiefs and lengths, hardware, haberdashery, beads, brass rods, tobacco, tinned provisions, and kola nuts from Ashanti.

The figures available show a total of 229,750½ loads registered in 1912, as against 165,318½ in 1911, an increase of 64,432 loads; but, as already stated, these figures cannot be relied on, and it is estimated that if the large number of caravans that passed up and down country during the year—travelling in most cases by night—had been registered, the number of loads recorded this year would have been increased by one-third. There was an increase of 26,651 in the number of cattle driven through the Protectorate during the year, but a decrease of 6,908 in the number of sheep. A large number of cattle, said to go into Togoland from the Northern Territories, are driven down the excellent road constructed along the left bank of the Volta River to Senchi, where they re-enter the Colony.

The only other increase that calls for comment, is that of 4,083½ in the number of loads of shea butter.

A large decrease—24,188 loads—is shown under the heading "Donkey Loads, Miscellaneous," but I believe that donkey transport is, if anything, on the increase, and that the figures available are quite misleading. These are only quoted for comparison with those contained in the Annual Report on Ashanti.

Until the necessary stimulus in the shape of transport facilities is provided, the native of this Dependency cannot be expected to exploit economic resources for which there is no market. He therefore contented himself in the past with providing for his own and his family's immediate needs.

In justice to him, it must be remembered that, before the occupation of his country by the white man, he lived in an atmosphere of insecurity, owing to the bands of slave-raiders, whose periodical incursions left in their wake a devastated country.

It is gratifying to be able to state that since the first Annual Report on the Northern Territories for the year 1901* was written, when it was stated that "a considerable amount of looting took place within a radius of 30 miles of Gambaga, frequent raids being made for the acquisition of women, children, and cattle," an increasing sense of security has caused the native to emerge gradually from the state of lethargy into which he had fallen, until to-day he fully realizes the blessing of peace, and only needs encouragement to prosecute such industries as this country—which, as far as we know at present, is purely agricultural—affords.

Live stock (cattle, sheep, goats, and poultry) are exported in large numbers, and shea butter, the product of the nut or kernel of *Butyrospermum Parkii*, and "dawa-dawa," a food prepared from the seed pods of *Parkia filicoidea*, find a ready market in Ashanti and the Colony, and, with a cheap transport service, could be worked up into flourishing and remunerative industries. Fish,

* Colonial Report (Annual) No. 357 [Cd. 788–27].

caught in the Volta River and sun-dried, are also exported, but this industry is in the hands of coast natives, chiefly of the Bator tribe, who come up the river and encamp on its banks during the annual fishing season.

The Commissioner of the Southern Province writes as follows:—

"With regard to imports, it is satisfactory to note that there has been a large increase in the number of loads of European cloth and kola nuts imported from Ashanti. The imports of miscellaneous goods from Togoland also show an increase, but this increase, and the total imports from that country, are insignificant compared with similar imports from Ashanti.

"The turnover in Messrs. Paul Hutter & Company's store at Tamale, shows a decrease of £69, compared with the previous year. This is accounted for by the reduction in the number of artisans employed by the Public Works Department during the year under review, and to the increasing number of local native traders dealing direct with Coomassie. There is also a decrease reported in sales in the European store at Salaga; this is attributed by the District Commissioner to the very small stock kept in the store.

"Tamale Port continues to increase in importance as a trading centre. Twelve new compounds have been built during the year, and applications for eighteen additional sites have been made, *i.e.*, twelve in the native and six in the Salt Traders' sections of the town respectively. In addition, four compounds are being built on a site selected for the Hausa Zongo.

"The number of bags of Ada salt landed at Tamale Port, amounted to 15,812, being an increase of 6,520 compared with the previous year.

"The number of petty traders, who import goods from Coomassie, via Kintampo, is increasing; and, from native report, it would appear that the amount of shea butter brought to Tamale Port is also increasing steadily.

"In May, a representative of the Chief Odonkor, of Kpong, having obtained the necessary permission, brought a consignment of 320 kegs of gunpowder and 197 dane guns for sale to Tamale, viâ the River Volta to Tamale Port. Of this consignment, 99 kegs of gunpowder and 53 dane guns have been sold at Tamale; and 55 kegs of gunpowder and 20 guns have been sent to Wa for sale.

"Two native traders were also given permission to introduce and sell gunpowder and dane guns at Bole."

The Acting Commissioner of the North-Eastern Province reports an increase in the amount of trade passing through Navarro and Zouaragu, but a decrease in that of Gambaga and Bawku.

The Commissioner, North-Western Province, states:—

"But little trade comes from the north through Lorha, and caravans are not checked there. There is, however, a considerable amount that goes to and from the Lorha and other Lobi markets from the south, which is checked passing through Wa.

"Since the opening of Tumu, caravans that have tickets issued at that station are not included in the returns given as passing through Wa, consequently the Wa return, since July, when Tumu

was opened, cannot be compared with previous years unless the Tumu totals are added. No extra clerical assistance is allowed for this work, and what it entails is shown by the figures.

"In the local markets, an improvement is reported from Lorha, where more cloth, hardware, and other imported goods are being sold than formerly.

"Some new country markets have been opened, principally at Bo and Samoa, both of which villages are on caravan routes to Wa and the Southwards that avoid Tumu.

"Every year it is noticeable that cloths are coming more into use in the country generally, apart from towns where there are stations.

"From all parts of the province, particularly Lobi and Dagarti, there is an increased number of young men going down to Coomassie to work. In many cases, these men go down with a small load of millet or maize for their consumption, and without money or clothes. What money they earn and can save is brought back in the shape of trade goods.

"These men go down as soon as the harvest is ripe, and, for the most part, return in time to plant the next year's crops."

Agriculture.

In spite of the comparatively small rainfall, the agricultural outlook has been, on the whole, satisfactory, as the following reports by the Commissioners of the three Provinces will show:—

Southern Province.

"In the Tamale district—especially in the villages which supply the Tamale and neighbouring markets with yams, guinea corn, millet, beans, rice, etc.—more land has been put under cultivation than in previous years. In consequence, although the rainfall was below the average, there has been an ample supply of foodstuffs exposed for sale to meet all demands."

The District Commissioner, Salaga, reports, "that the amount of ground under cultivation, as far as can be ascertained, is slightly larger than last year. Owing to a very small rainfall during the year the crops suffered in consequence, and the yams are not up to their usual size and weight.

"Practically no cotton is grown in the Salaga district; the main foodstuffs grown are:—Yams, guinea corn, maize, millet, cassada, ground-nuts and beans."

The District Commissioner, Bole, reports that "a small amount of rubber is found in the north-eastern corner of the district.

Farming is on a very small scale, only enough food being cultivated to meet the actual requirements of the people. At times there is difficulty in obtaining sufficient food in Bole. The Chiefs have been repeatedly advised to increase their farms, but little notice is taken of it. The sheabutter tree is widely distributed over the whole district, and a great deal of use is made of it by the natives. Were transport available, there ought to be a considerable trade done in this valuable product."

North-Eastern Province.

"The harvests this year were good. Slightly more land is under cultivation in Zouaragu to meet the local demands. Round Gambaga the farms are reported to be larger this year.

"Millet, guinea corn, and beans are the staple food of the country.

"Next in importance come the small fra-fra potatoes, then ground-nuts. Then come a small quantity of sweet potatoes.

"Mealies are getting more popular, but are still far behind; and from enquiry at Navarro, I could only hear of three farmers who grew rice.

"No one at Navarro will grow yams, because their fathers did not do so, although at Chichulliga, eight miles south-west of Navarro towards the Kanjarga country, yams are grown with perfect success."

North-Western Province.

"The rainy season was not a heavy one and ceased after the first week in October. It was feared at one time that sufficient rain had not fallen to ensure a good harvest, but these fears proved unfounded and throughout the Province a fair average harvest has been reaped.

"It is satisfactory to know that larger areas are being planted in the Lorha District where it is reported that 'corn was brought into the market without any trouble right up to the harvest, while in former years it was difficult to get corn in the market as early as April.'"

Agricultural Station, Tamale.—A Report on the Government Agricultural Station at Tamale has been submitted by the Agriculturalist to the Director of Agriculture.

Cotton seed, cassava, ginger, sweet potatoes, rice, and fibre were distributed from the station to the local chiefs for planting on their farms, and a large number of ornamental and shade trees were despatched to outstations and planted out in Tamale.

A stock farm was started during the year in connection with the Agricultural Station and numbered 23 head of Moshi and Dagomba cattle at the end of the year. Pleuro-pneumonia, probably introduced by some Moshi cattle obtained from French country, accounted for the death of several beasts.

Bullocks have been employed for ploughing and carting on the station.

The British Cotton Growing Association.—As a result of the efforts of the Association's energetic manager, Mr. A. H. Emery, who travelled for 120 days during the year, and everywhere addressed meetings of chiefs, headmen and farmers, when some 2,500 lbs. of cotton seed were distributed among, and planted by, the natives, the Dagombas have taken an increased interest in cotton growing.

The Cotton Growing Association sent a representative to Tamale in 1909, and, on his recommendation decided to establish there. In that year one 240 lb. bale of lint was despatched to England; in 1910 six bales, and in 1911 ten bales were exported. It is

anticipated that this season's purchases of cotton will be more than double those of the previous year. Two thousand five hundred pounds of cotton seed are being despatched to the north-eastern and north-western provinces for distribution among the natives, and should result in largely increased purchases of cotton by the association.

Industries.—Apart from agriculture, native industries are confined to the production of articles for local use or wear. Serviceable cloths are woven from native cotton yarn, and pottery, baskets, mats, rope, saddlery and leather goods, brass ornaments, and iron hoe- and axe-heads are manufactured.

The dyeing of native cloths and cotton goods and smelting of iron from the ore give employment to natives in various parts of the Protectorate, and salt is produced by evaporation at Daboya.

Gunpowder is manufactured in Grunshi, but does not possess a high point of ignition.

Minerals.—Gold-bearing quartz and alluvial deposits have been found in the neighbourhood of Wa and in the Bole district, and a certain amount of prospecting was done in 1902 and succeeding years, but lack of transport facilities debarred the undertaking of mining operations on a large scale.

Coal is stated to have been found along the right bank of the White Volta river below Daboya.

During the second tour undertaken by the Chief Commissioner during the year he showed everywhere samples of stream tin from Northern Nigeria, and offered a reward of £10 to any native who discovered and brought in to the local Commissioner similar specimens. The samples thus shown aroused the greatest interest, and, it is hoped, may lead to the discovery of tin-bearing areas in the northern parts of the Protectorate.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Two Ordinances were enacted by the Governor during the year under review.

Ordinance No. 1 of 1912 amended the Northern Territories Constabulary Ordinance of 1906 by granting the award by the Secretary of State of silver medals for distinguished conduct in the field to non-commissioned officers and constables of the Northern Territories Constabulary upon special recommendation.

Ordinance No. 2 of 1912 further amended "The Northern Territories Administration Ordinance, 1902" by applying "The Marriage Ordinance, 1884" (No. 14 of 1884); "The Infectious Diseases Ordinance, 1908" (No. 2 of 1908), and "The Distillation of Spirits Prohibition Ordinance, 1912" (No. 12 of 1912), to the Protectorate.

Rules under Section 23 (9) of the Northern Territories Administration Ordinance (No. 1 of 1902) were made by the Chief Commissioner and approved by the Governor as follows:—

(i.) Rules made on the 16th May, 1912, revoking rules made with respect to the Government ferry at Yeji on the 22nd November, 1910, and substituting a reduced scale of ferry tolls.

(ii.) Rules made on the 16th September, 1912, amending the above-mentioned rules by the insertion of a Rule permitting natives residing in Yeji and Tunga villages to be ferried both ways across the Volta on the same day on payment of a single toll of 3*d*.

Rules under Section 23 (18) of the same Ordinance were also made on the 4th September, 1912, amending those made on the 20th December, 1911, with respect to the introduction of goods and merchandise into the Northern Territories.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Government Primary School, opened at Tamale in March, 1909, has more than justified its establishment, and the pupils continue to make excellent progress in their respective standards.

There was an average daily attendance of 74 as against 56 in 1911, and the capacity of the school building is severely taxed. Many of the local chiefs have sent boys to the school, while other pupils are the sons of well-to-do natives from the Coast. While I was on tour in the North-Eastern Province, the Fra-Fra Chief of Nangodi gave me an intelligent boy to be educated at the Tamale school. Two boys were sent to the technical school at Accra in November, making a total of five Northern Territories boys who are finishing their education at that institution. It was with great difficulty, and only after their parents' authority was invoked, that the boys were persuaded to undertake the journey to the Coast, and the pupils infinitely preferred the idea of being attached to the agricultural station at Tamale, with a view to being given regular employment under the Government as native travelling instructors in agriculture. Three of the more advanced pupils now attend the agricultural station, and three, the Cotton Growing Association's ginnery, in the mornings, continuing their school studies in the afternoon. It is hoped that the latter will be given permanent employment by the Association.

The Government school at Gambaga was provided with a teacher and opened in April. The average daily attendance has been 14—11 local, and 3 Coast boys.

The Commissioner of the North-Western Province and the District Commissioner, Bole, ask that Government schools may be opened at Wa and Bole respectively, and both predict a large attendance if this is done.

The Roman Catholic Mission (Pères Blancs) established at Navarro gives an elementary education to some thirty boys, who live in the Mission station. Little, if any, progress has been made in this respect since I first inspected the Mission in June, 1911; the most valuable instruction being the teaching of English, which is the only language allowed to be used by the boys during working hours.

A workshop was attached to the school, but, owing to the death in 1910 of the father in whose charge it was, it has been closed,

and, as there is little or no demand for carpentry work in the North-Eastern Province, I do not think that this is to be regretted. The fathers have acquired a plot of land from the Government, which they intend to use for Agricultural purposes, and for the instruction of their pupils in agriculture.

Mohammedans are scattered throughout the Dependency, and, at towns where they congregate, and where there is a Malam in residence, children are taught elementary reading and writing in Arabic, and to repeat by heart passages from the Koran.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

There are Government hospitals at Tamale, Salaga, Bole, Navarro, Bawku, Gambaga, Zouaragu, Wa, Lorha and Tumu, which the natives attended during the year in slightly increasing numbers.

The Agricultural Station opened at Tamale in 1909 is referred to under "Agriculture."

Government schools have been opened at Tamale and Gambaga.

Officers are supplied with boxes of vegetable seeds each quarter for use in the Government gardens established at all stations.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Northern Territories Constabulary.

This fine force maintained its reputation for discipline and general efficiency throughout the year. There was no change in the organisation of the force during the year, except as provided by the Northern Territories Constabulary (Amendment) Ordinance No. 1 of 1912.

Detachments of 25 non-commissioned officers and men, and 15 non-commissioned officers and men, were placed at the reopened district stations of Tumu and Yeji respectively, and, as a consequence of this drain on the strength of the Constabulary, the Zouaragu detachment had to be reduced and ceased to be an independent unit from the 1st October.

Constabulary lines were completed at Bawku and the building of new lines commenced at Tumu and Yeji.

Sergeant-Major Egala Grunshi was presented with a silver medal for distinguished conduct in the field during the military operations in the Tong Hills in March, 1911, by the late Governor when he visited Tamale in May.

Prisons.—The Central Prison at Tamale is in charge of the Provincial Medical Officer, and a native keeper of prison, with the following staff:—

One first and two second class warders, and an average number of fifteen temporary warders.

All long sentence prisoners undergo their terms of imprisonment in this prison, instead of being transferred to one of the central prisons in the Colony.

The total number of prisoners undergoing sentence in Tamale prison during the year was seventy-five, of whom three escaped; one being recaptured. The daily average number of convicts was 45, and their health was reported to be good.

Four executions were carried out in the Tamale prison during the year. Prisoners' rations are supplied by contract, when this is possible, at a cost not exceeding threepence per diem per man.

There are gaols at Salaga, Bole, Wa, Lorha, Navarro, Zouaragu, Bawku, and Gambaga, where prisoners sentenced to less than six months' imprisonment serve their sentences.

Gaols are being built at the district stations newly opened at Tumu and Yeji. The prisoners at Tamale and at all other stations have been employed chiefly in sanitary work, carrying water, extending clearings in the cantonments, and in cleaning and keeping in repair the station roads.

Summary jurisdiction obtains in the Northern Territories. The Chief Commissioner presiding in Court has full powers and jurisdiction in the Protectorate as a Judge of the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony, and, as far as it is practicable and local circumstances permit, the procedure in this Court, civil and criminal, is the same as that in the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony. Provincial Commissioners hear and determine all criminal offences punishable by a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds or imprisonment for twelve months; District Commissioners, by a fine not exceeding fifty pounds or imprisonment for six months. The civil jurisdiction of Provincial Commissioners and District Commissioners is limited to suits in which the claims do not exceed three hundred pounds and fifty pounds respectively.

Every encouragement has been given to the Chiefs to exercise their authority; to hear and determine cases relating to native property, marriage, and other civil actions, and to uphold native laws and customs, so long as they are not opposed to our ideas of justice and equity. Few appeals from the decisions of the chiefs are made to the Commissioners' Courts, and, as a rule, local authority is exercised with the greatest moderation.

The following comparative table of crime in this Dependency, during the last four years has been compiled for the Blue Book:—

—	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
The number of offences reported to the police ...	528	403	800	661
The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrate.	528	403	800	661
The number of summary convictions :—				
1. For offences against the person	76	122	94	108
2. For slave dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For offences against property other than prædial larceny.	104	87	109	106
4. For offences against Health Acts	—	—	183	186
5. For offences against Master and Servant Act, including Acts relating to indentured coolies.	—	—	7	6
6. For other offences	276	196	255	137

—	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
The number of offences in the Superior Courts :—				
1. For offences against the person	1	—	7	1
2. For slave dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For offences against property other than prædial larceny.	—	7	—	—
4. For other offences	10	13	—	6
The number of persons acquitted :—				
1. In the Inferior Courts...	71	57	141	95
2. In the Superior Courts	2	2	4	7

The general decrease in crime shown by these figures is the more gratifying when it is remembered that two new stations have been opened during the year, and that the Administration is getting into closer touch with the natives daily, especially in the case of the wild tribes inhabiting the North-Eastern Province, whose chiefs now assist in arresting and bringing to justice criminals of their tribes, whom, two years ago, they would have aided to escape.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The census, completed in 1911, gave an estimated population of 361,806 to the Northern Territories, with a computed area of 31,100 square miles—an average number of 11·6 persons to the square mile.

The census returns for the Southern and North-Western Provinces were considered to be fairly accurate, but those of the North-Eastern Province fell far short of being correct, and it was estimated that only two-thirds of the inhabitants were enumerated. As only three enumerators were allowed to this Protectorate, practically the whole of the work devolved upon the Commissioners.

Systematic work is being carried on in order to render the next census returns reliable in every respect.

The Acting Provincial Medical Officer, in his Annual Report submitted to the Principal Medical Officer, states that the European population of the Northern Territories, including officials and non-officials, totalled an average of 31·80 per diem—26·80 officials and 5·0 non-officials. Among the officials, 44 were placed on the sick list during the year, one was invalided, and one died. These figures compare unfavourably with those of 1911, which recorded 31 officials placed on the sick list, two invalided, and no death. The health of the non-officials was good.

The number of native officials resident in the Protectorate averaged daily 54·67. Of these, 19 were placed on the sick list during the year, none were invalided, and there were no deaths.

The health of the non-commissioned officers and men of the Gold Coast Regiment and Northern Territories Constabulary was good.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 807.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1913.

(For Report for 1912, see No. 765.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
August, 1914.

LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
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the United States of America, the Continent of Europe and Abroad of
T. FISHER UNWIN, LONDON, W.C.

1914.

[Cd.7050—48.] *Price* 2½*d.*

CONTENTS.

		Page.
I.	Financial	5
II.	Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	7
III.	Legislation	12
IV.	Education	12
V.	Government Institutions	13
VI.	Judicial Statistics	13
VII.	Vital Statistics	16
VIII.	Posts and Telegraphs	19
IX.	Religion	20
X.	General Observations	21
	Map.	

No. 807.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

(For Report for 1912, see No. 765.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Accra,
20th July, 1914.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Report on the Northern Territories for the year 1913, which has been prepared by the Chief Commissioner, Captain C. H. Armitage, C.M.G., D.S.O.

The revenue for the past year amounts to £3,709, an increase of £715 as compared with 1912. The expenditure for the same period is £82,419, an increase of £3,525.

The inhabitants of the Protectorate are mainly occupied in agriculture, and it is satisfactory to note that the security given by the establishment of law and order has stimulated this industry. A considerable increase is reported in the cattle trade between the Colony and Ashanti and French territory, all of which passes through the Northern Territories, while the measures that are being taken by the Veterinary Department to improve stock breeding in the Protectorate promise to give satisfactory results. Following a period of unusual prosperity in 1912, the kola trade seems to have experienced a slight set back. Kola is cultivated in Akim and Ashanti and the bulk of the trade in this product formerly passed through the Northern Territories to the Hausa States in the north. The opening of the Baro Kano railway, however, has provided more rapid means of transport, and has caused a diversion of the trade, though the route through the Northern Territories is still largely used.

(C62) Wt.36076/850. 1125&90. .14. B.&F.Ltd. Gp.11/2.

It is satisfactory to notice that education is winning popularity, and the opening of additional schools, it is hoped, will be effected so soon as the Education Department is in a position to provide the necessary staff.

A noteworthy feature is the increase in the number of natives of the Northern Territories who seek employment outside the Protectorate. A large quantity of the labourers employed on the mines and on various public works in the Colony is supplied by the Northern Territories, while their services are also utilised by the cocoa planters in Akim as well as in Ashanti.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

W. C. F. ROBERTSON,

Acting Governor.

The Right Honourable

Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,

etc., etc., etc.,

Secretary of State for the Colonies,

Downing Street, S.W.

I.—FINANCIAL.

Since the abolition of the "Caravan Tolls" from the 1st September, 1908, the revenue of the Protectorate has become an almost negligible quantity. The excellent main roads which traverse the Dependency are made use of by the many caravans passing to and from Ashanti without payment of any kind, although it may be noted that the removal of the "Caravan Toll" was at first regarded by the native traders with the greatest dismay, as they considered that the receipt that they received on payment of the toll represented a guarantee for their free and unmolested passage through the Protectorate.

In his message addressed by the Governor to the Legislative Council when presenting the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the year 1914, His Excellency stated that "the published accounts, it "should be noted, fail to convey any just idea of the financial position of "Ashanti." This remark would appear to apply to a lesser extent to the Northern Territories.

The Customs receipts for goods imported for consumption in the Northern Territories are credited to the Colony as is the revenue made by the Seccondee-Coomassie Railway from the transport of live stock which arrives at Coomassie from, or through, the Northern Territories.

Nor has it been realized how great an amount of labour, without which the prosperity of Ashanti, and, to a lesser degree, that of the Colony, would be jeopardised, has been, and continues to be, supplied to both from this Protectorate. The remarkable growth of the cocoa industry in Ashanti is due, in a large measure, to labour supplied from the Northern Territories. The Ashanti, never an agriculturalist, is only too pleased to pay the native of the Northern Territories from 1*s.* to 1*s.* 3*d.* per diem, in addition to his food, in exchange for his work on the cocoa farms.

The prosperity of the firms trading in Coomassie is also attributable in part to the purchases made by native traders from this Protectorate, the *ad valorem* duty on which is credited to the revenue of the Colony.

The nickel coinage of three denominations—one penny, one half-penny and one tenth of a penny—introduced into the Protectorate in June, 1913, has become exceedingly popular among the natives, and, if a sufficient supply were provided, would completely supersede the cowrie.

With regard to this coinage the Provincial Commissioner, North-Eastern Province, writes :—

"It is to be regretted that a consignment of only £200 in nickel was available during the year for distribution in the Province. This coinage is extremely popular, and as soon as it was known that it had arrived there was an immediate demand far in excess of the supply. Its extreme popularity may be evidenced by the fact that it is never paid back into the Treasury in the shape of court fines and fees, as was the case with the copper coinage, which invariably was returned almost as soon as issued."

Comparative Statement of Revenue from Northern Territories During the Year 1913, as Compared with the Previous Year, 1912.

Head X.	1912	1913	Increase	Decrease
Revenue from N.T.	£	£	£	£
Licences, Firearms and Ammunition	390	512	122	—
Licences, Hunting	47	30	—	17
Licences, Spirit (for Europeans) ..	10	10	—	—
Licences, Wine and Beer	5	10	5	—
Court Fines and Fees	415	372	—	43
Fees, Market and Slaughter House	452	404	—	48
Rents from Government Lands ..	24	19	—	5
Sale of Live Stock	50	33	—	17
Sale of Stamps, &c.	438	190	—	248
Ferry Tolls	987	1,958	971	—
Miscellaneous	176	171	—	5
	2,994	3,709	1,098	383

Increase ..	£1,098	0 0
Decrease ..	383	0 0
Net Increase ..	£715	0 0

Comparative Statement of Expenditure Charged Against the Northern Territories During the Year 1913, as Compared with the Previous Year, 1912.

Head	1912	1913	Increase	Decrease
	£	£	£	£
Printing	1,584	1,670	86	—
Treasury	404	466	62	—
Customs	386	305	—	81
Customs Preventive Services ..	1,592	1,778	186	—
Post and Telegraphs	931	1,071	140	—
Transport Department	691	782	91	—
Medical Department	7,903	8,262	359	—
Sanitation	886	1,234	348	—
Veterinary	292	232	—	60
Education	587	531	—	56
Agriculture	1,604	1,552	—	52
Forestry	266	295	29	—
Gold Coast Regiment	5,768	5,416	—	352
Northern Territories	30,400	35,065	4,665	—
Constabulary N.T.	11,283	11,197	—	86
Coomassie Ejura Roads Dept. ..	11,751	7,994	—	3,757
Public Works Department	881	1,083	202	—
Public Works Annually Recurrent..	458	394	—	64
Public Works Extraordinary ..	1,227	3,092	1,865	—
	£78,894	£82,419	£8,033	£4,508

Increase ..	£8,033	0 0
Decrease ..	4,508	0 0
Net Increase ..	£3,525	0 0

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

As stated in previous Reports on this Dependency, it is impossible under present conditions, to give more than an approximate estimate of the volume of trade entering and leaving the country. Trade statistics are kept at stations situated on the main trade routes, but, as the registration of live stock and trade goods is voluntary, and as many caravans—especially those composed of live stock—pass through the stations during the night, the figures given can be looked on only as an indication of a general increase or decrease in trade, as the case may be. The trade routes from the north through Daboya to Kintampo and others of minor importance do not pass through any stations where statistics can be collected, nor are such compiled at Kintampo, in Ashanti. Imports consist generally of cotton and woollen goods, silk handkerchiefs and lengths, hardware, haberdashery, beads, brass rods, tobacco, tinned provisions, and kola nuts from Ashanti.

With the exception of the North-Western Province, where a distinct decrease in the caravan trade in cattle and moshi cloth is reported, the import and export trade has increased greatly during the year under review, and it may be noted that the falling off in the North-Western Province is more than compensated for by the largely increased volume of trade that passed through the North-Eastern Province, particulars of which will be given later. This increase is directly due to the subjugation in 1911 of the wild tribes which held the Tong Hills as their stronghold and terrorised the surrounding country.

A broad road now runs through Tinzugu and Winduri in the heart of the Tong Hills and this route is becoming most popular with the French traders.

The figures available show a total of 310,699 loads registered during the year as against 229,750½ registered in 1912 : an increase of 80,948½ loads. The principal increases appear under the following heads :— Cattle 40,346, Sheep 40,345, Donkeys 9,087, Shea Butter 5,855½, Dawa Dawa 2,128, and Native Blankets 1,837, while decreases occur under Miscellaneous 17,938½, Cloth 8,886½ Donkey Loads (Miscellaneous) 7,810, and Donkey Loads (Shea Butter) 1,856.

The large increases in live stock are due to the failure of the crops and to lack of water in the area of Upper Senegal lying between Wagadugu and Timbuctoo, but, when the railway line now in course of construction from Dakar taps that country, we must expect a diversion of the trade, and a heavy fall in the number of animals passing through this Dependency to Ashanti and the Colony. In view of the fact that no transport facilities, beyond the excellent main roads, are available for the natives, and that no provision for such is contemplated, it is encouraging to note the increase under the heads of "Shea Butter," "Dawa Dawa" and "Native Blankets," for it demonstrates that the natives are realizing that money is to be made by the exploitation of these local industries.

In referring in my Annual Report for 1912 to an alleged decrease of 24,188 loads under the heading "Donkey Loads, Miscellaneous," as compared with the figures recorded under that head for 1911, I wrote as follows :—

"I believe that donkey transport is, if anything, on the increase, and that the figures available are quite misleading. These are only quoted for comparison with those contained in the Annual Report on Ashanti."

These remarks apply equally this year.

During the year kola nuts and salt were exported over the inland frontiers through the southern Preventive Stations established on the eastern boundary of the Dependency as follows :—

Destination.	Kola (lbs.).	Salt (lbs.).
British	594,180	56
French	219,691	560
German	150,086	17,668
Total	963,957	18,284

The above figures were supplied by officers of the Preventive Service.

Fish, caught in the Volta River and sun-dried, are exported to Ashanti and the coast, but this industry is in the hands of the Bator tribe, who come up the river and encamp on its banks during the fishing season. The Commissioner of the Southern Province reports as follows :—

"From the Trade Statistics furnished by the Commissioners there appears to be a considerable increase in the number of cattle, sheep and donkeys passing south to Ashanti.

"The District Commissioner, Salaga, reports that there has been a considerable drop in the number of loads of kola nuts, which he considers is due to the large quantities that are now being shipped by sea to Southern Nigeria. There has been a very slight increase in the kola trade passing through Tamale, whilst the returns from Bole show that the kola trade has been much the same as the previous year.

"There is a steady rise throughout the Province in the export of shea butter and also in Dawa Dawa. There is also throughout the Province a large increase in the number of loads of salt passing through.

"With regard to the imports of cloth from the Colony and Ashanti, there has been an increase, as also in loads of miscellaneous goods, with the exception of Salaga.

"There has been a decrease in goods imported from Togoland. The turnover in Messrs. Paul Hutter and Company's store at Tamale shows a decrease of £284 11*s.* 2½*d.*, compared with 1912. The clerk in charge of the store is unable to furnish me with an explanation as to this decrease.

"Tamale Port continues to increase in importance ; several new compounds have been built during the year, and applications for additional sites have been made.

"The District Commissioner, Bole, reports that trade has increased, but during the rains, which were very heavy, and owing to the main roads being under water, a good deal of the trade passed through Busunu and Bonfu."

The Commissioner of the North-Western Province states:—

"The local trade, which is more or less a minor quantity, is much the same as it was a year ago.

"The "Caravan Trade" however shows a distinct falling off in cattle and Moshi cloth. The sheep have increased by 10 per cent. over last year, but still show a very large decrease when compared with 1911. Other items do not call for comment.

"I am informed that one reason for the decrease in cattle is that the season has not been propitious in the French country, where 95 per cent. of the cattle, etc., come from. Another reason given is that many Chiefs have complained to the authorities of the increased migration, or rather desire to find work, or trade, amongst their people, and the authorities have tried to put pressure on the people. The Chiefs wish it stopped, as they cannot get the young men to farm.

"I have already reported on the number of French subjects passing through Wa empty-handed. I am also of opinion that other roads are being used by the traders, and this could be verified if statistics from Kintampo were available.

"There is also no doubt that the enforcement of quarantine regulations by the French has had some effect."

The Report of the Commissioner of the North-Eastern Province demonstrates that the decrease in volume of the caravan trade passing through the North-Western Province is due to the popularity of the recently opened trade route through the Tong Hills. He states:—

"Trade statistics for the year are attached, and although they cannot be regarded as representing accurately the whole volume of the trade which passes through the Province, they do, however, clearly indicate that there has been a marked increase over the previous year.

"The following are the principal increases:—

Horses	121
Cattle	15,450
Sheep	15,458
Donkeys	1,021
Donkey Loads	2,840
Carrier Loads	23,622
Total Increase ..	58,512

"It is impossible to value the whole of the trade, but that of the live stock imported during the year would approximately amount to £268,605, made up as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
653 Horses @ £6	3,918	0	0
43,943 Cattle @ £5	219,715	0	0
60,752 Sheep @ 12s.	36,451	4	0
5,682 Donkeys @ 30s.	8,521	0	0
Total	268,605	4	0

"The following are the total increases at the various stations:—

	1912	1913	Increases	Decreases
Navarro	43,620	59,139	15,519	—
Gambaga	5,533	8,492	2,959	—
Bawku	39,674	63,320	23,646	—
Zouaragu	8,320	24,708	16,388	—
Total	97,147	155,659	58,512	—

"The most gratifying feature from an administrative point of view is the increase of 16,388 in the Zouaragu return, which proves conclusively the entire pacification of the district. Traders now come to Zouaragu from Bawku, and all the towns along the frontier—chiefly from Zoko on the north-east of the district, which is situated on a route which is rapidly becoming popular with French traders. They then travel south on the road which passes through Tonzugu and Winduri, in the heart of the Tong Hills. Prior to the establishment of the station in 1910 no traders dared wander about the district, and, except for the exchange of foodstuffs at the local markets, which were constantly raided, there was no trade of any sort.

"There has been a very severe drought in the regions between Wagadugu and Timbuctoo, and to this fact may be attributed the increase in the live stock which has been, and still is, passing to Coomassie. The crops there have failed entirely, and neither food nor water can be obtained for the animals, and consequently the owners are getting rid of their stocks as quickly as possible, so probably next year there will be a decrease.

"The bulk of the trade is in the hands of Hausas, Moshis, and other non-British subjects, who sell their wares for cash, and thus denude the Province. But signs are to be observed that our own people are commencing to take an interest in external trade and now go as far as Yagiba and Daboya, where they exchange sheep for salt, fish, cloth, etc.

"Efforts have been made to establish a trade in beeswax and hides, but the result has not been very encouraging. The former is prepared in small quantities everywhere, but, until traders come up and prove to the people that a demand does exist, I fear it will not be any great success. As for hides, although in nearly every compound there are a few cattle, they are never killed for consumption, but kept chiefly for the purpose of paying headmoney on women."

Agriculture.

The unequal rainfall recorded in 1912 has had a corresponding effect on the crops grown in the various Districts, as is detailed by the Commissioners as follows :—

Southern Province.

"The area of the Agricultural Station, Tamale, under cultivation, remained the same as 1912, viz., 98 acres.

"Cotton is the principal crop grown ; 22 acres being cultivated during the season 1912–1913. The crop of the season terminating in March shows a considerable improvement over other seasons.

"Mr. Saunders, Curator, made tours of instruction and inspection in Eastern and Western Dagomba.

"Sisal hemp plots of an acre each have been laid out and planted at Port Tamale and Daboya.

"The Stock Farm was greatly impeded by an outbreak of pleuro-pneumonia during the early part of the year. The losses have been replaced and additional animals purchased.

"These, with the calves bred, bring the animals up to thirty-five. Thirteen head of cattle were purchased during the year for breeding purposes.

"Three pupils from the Government School were taken on probation at the Agricultural Station with a view of becoming eventually Agricultural Instructors.

"The British Cotton Growing Association distributed to outlying villages 13,137 lb. seeds and 582 lb. to the Agricultural Station. Three times more land was planted with cotton in the present year than in 1912, and 23,175 lb. of cotton was purchased during the year under review as compared with 1910–1911 (4,172 lb.) and 1912 (7,849 lb.).

"American Black Rattler is the only variety that has been given out to the natives, and the distribution of this is being increased every year because the percentage of lint is 9 per cent. more than that obtained from the native variety.

"Twenty-eight bales of lint were exported from Yapei to the coast for shipment to England. The heavy rainfall during the growing months, August, September, and October, was abnormal, and, in consequence, the plants became water-logged and stunted on the low ground and clay slopes. On the higher ground the cotton is reported to be up to the average.

"The travelling done by three Europeans of the Association amounted to 156 days. The native clerks' tours were from one to six days duration during the planting season. Native overseers were also similarly employed.

"The Tamale market has been well supplied with foodstuffs, viz., yams, guinea corn, millet, beans, rice, etc. In some parts of Dagomba the yam crops are reported to have suffered severely owing to the heavy rainfall.

"The District Commissioner, Salaga, reports that the amount of ground under cultivation seems to be about the same as last year and the crops appear to be of good quality and quantity.

"The District Commissioner, Bole, reports that very little rubber is grown in the district and only a small quantity of cotton, which is used solely for local use. The shea butter tree is widely scattered all over the district and shea butter is made in large quantities by the natives from its nuts or kernels. He also reports that cattle thrive in Bole itself and at Wandara about six miles west of Bole."

North-Western Province.

"The rainy season was poor all over the Province, but as far as the District of Wa is concerned the crops are quite good and better than last year.

"This, I regret to say, was not the case in the Lorha and Tumu Districts. The District Commissioner Lorha states that the crops may be said to be bad, though not an absolute failure, the people in the north and east of the District suffering most, those bordering on the Wa District having fair crops.

"The District Commissioner, Tumu, reports, and I am also so informed by the natives, that the yam and ground nut crops were an absolute failure. The corn crop also was almost a failure.

"The District Commissioner, Tumu, complains of a scarcity of food already, no yams being obtainable. This is a very bad outlook.

"Cotton seed was distributed in all three Districts, but has been a failure in the Lorha and Tumu Districts. The British Cotton Growing Association's representative informed me that he saw some quite good crops in the Wa District, but the farm in Wa itself is a failure."

North-Eastern Province.

"There has been a decrease in the rainfall throughout the Province, but fortunately it fell in sufficient quantity just at the right times, with the result that the harvest at Navarro is the best for years. Gambaga has suffered to a certain extent, but elsewhere the crops are satisfactory with the exception of the cotton, which has suffered to some extent in all the Districts, but more especially in the Gambaga District, where it is entirely destroyed.

"The usual crops cultivated are millet, guinea corn, many varieties of beans, a species of potato, and okro. Yams and Indian corn are grown in the Gambaga District, but little elsewhere.

"Very good fibres are grown all over the Zouaragu District and excellent rope is made from them.

"Many hundred of the young men go into Ashanti, where they readily find employment on the cocoa farms, which, I understand, are to a great extent cultivated by them. The Ashantis both feed them and pay them 1*s.* per diem, and, as the boys are really good agricultural labourers, the work is congenial to them, and no doubt the Ashantis find it equally to their advantage to employ them."

Industries.

As stated last year, apart from agriculture native industries are confined to the production of articles of local use and wear. Serviceable cloths are woven from native cotton yarn, and pottery, baskets, mats, rope, saddlery and leather goods, brass ornaments, and iron hoe and axe-heads are manufactured, with other small articles necessary for the wants of a primitive people.

The dyeing of native cloths and cotton goods and the smelting of iron from the ore give employment to natives in various parts of the Protectorate, and salt is produced by evaporation at Daboya. Gunpowder is manufactured in small quantities in Grunshi, but does not possess a high point of ignition.

Minerals.

Gold-bearing quartz and alluvial deposits have been found in the neighbourhood of Wa, and in the Bole District, where they are worked by Ashantis, and a certain amount of prospecting was carried out in the Dependency in 1902 and succeeding years, but lack of transport facilities debarred the undertaking of mining operations on a large scale, and such mining concessions as were then acquired have lapsed.

Coal is stated to have been found along the right bank of the White Volta River below Daboya, but this has not been verified.

The reward offered throughout the Protectorate by the Chief Commissioner in 1912 to any native who discovered and brought in to the local Commissioners mineralogical specimens that proved to contain tin has not been claimed.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Seven Ordinances were enacted by the Governor during the year under review.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Government Primary School opened at Tamale in March 1909, was well and regularly attended during the year. The average daily attendance was 88, as compared with 74 in 1912, and 56 in 1911.

102 pupils were examined at the annual examination held in November, before closing the school for the Christmas holidays, with very satisfactory results.

The five boys sent to the Technical School at Accra in 1912 returned to Tamale for their holidays. Unfortunately one boy was unable to return with the others to Accra owing to failing eyesight and his place was taken by one of the more advanced pupils. Three

school boys are now being employed at the Agricultural Station at Tamale and three others in the British Cotton Growing Association's ginnery.

The attendance at the Government School at Gambaga remained the same as last year—14—a somewhat unsatisfactory state of affairs. The Provincial Commissioner reports that the local Chiefs seem very loath to part with their children.

Of the Roman Catholic Mission School at Navarro the Provincial Commissioner, North-Eastern Province, reports as follows :—

"In Navarro there are five French Canadians belonging to the White Fathers Roman Catholic Mission, and when they were established in 1906 the education of the natives was left to them, as it was anticipated that they would produce sufficient youths capable of undertaking the work of interpreters or even clerks, but this hope has not materialized; on the contrary, so far they have not succeeded in turning out a single boy who has even a smattering of English. This may not be entirely their fault, as no doubt the parents object to the children being absent for the time required to complete the course of instruction, but, on the other hand, the Mission has not shown any marked inclination to retain them after they have once obtained a most cursory religious instruction.

"This year there are an entirely new lot of children, who are merely instructed in Grunshi, in passages of the Mass, and as soon as they are capable of repeating these, they return to their homes."

He asks that a Government School may be established at Navarro. A similar request has been made by the Bole Chiefs in the Southern, and by the Wa Chiefs in the North-Western Province.

The Commissioners predict a large attendance if such schools are opened.

Mallams, who are to be found wherever Mohammedans reside, instruct the children in reading and writing in Arabic and in the repetition by heart of passages from the Koran.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

There are Government Hospitals at Tamale, Salaga, Bole, Navarro, Bawku, Gambaga, Zouaragu, Wa, Lorha and Tumu. The attendance by natives at the Salaga and Wa Hospitals has greatly increased during the year.

Unfortunately, owing to the shortage of Medical Officers, the Hospital at Navarro was closed.

Government Schools are established at Tamale and Gambaga, and are referred to under "Education."

Officers are supplied with boxes of vegetable seeds each quarter for use in the Government Gardens established at all stations.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Northern Territories Constabulary.

An improvement in the discipline, general efficiency and shooting of this fine force is reported by the Commandant, Major J. Marlow, during the year under review, when only one case of desertion occurred.

There was no change in the organisation of the force. A schoolmaster was added to the strength during the year.

Prisons.

The central prison at Tamale is in charge of the Provincial Medica Officer and a native Keeper of Prisons with the following staff :—

One senior warder, one second class warder, and an average number of fourteen temporary warders.

All long-sentence prisoners undergo their terms of imprisonment in this prison, instead of being transferred to one of the central prisons in the Colony.

The total number of prisoners admitted to Tamale Prison during the year was two hundred, with a daily average number of 52·61 convicts. Of these seven escaped and five were recaptured.

Two executions were carried out, and there were two deaths. The general health of the convicts, who were employed chiefly in sanitary work, water carrying, repairing roads, streets, and culverts, and sinking wells was good.

Prisoners' rations are purchased in the market by the Keeper of Prisons and are cooked in the prison at a cost not exceeding 2*d.* per diem for each man. The three meals per diem thus supplied are good in quality and quantity.

There are gaols at Salaga, Bole, Wa, Lorha, Tumu, Navarro, Zouaragu, Gambaga and Bawku, where prisoners whose sentences are less than six months' imprisonment are confined. These prisoners are employed as at Tamale.

Summary jurisdiction obtains in the Northern Territories. The Chief Commissioner presiding in Court has full powers and jurisdiction in the Protectorate as a Judge of the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony, and, as far as it is practicable and local circumstances permit, the procedure in this Court, civil and criminal, is the same as that in the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony. Provincial Commissioners hear and determine all criminal offences punishable by a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds or imprisonment for twelve months ; District Commissioners by a fine not exceeding fifty pounds or imprisonment for six months. The civil jurisdiction of Provincial Commissioners and District Commissioners is limited to suits in which the claims do not exceed three hundred pounds and fifty pounds respectively.

Every encouragement has been given to the Chiefs to exercise their authority, to hear and determine cases relating to native property, marriage, and other civil actions, and to uphold native laws and customs, so long as they are not opposed to our ideas of justice and equity. Few appeals from the decisions of the Chiefs are made to the Commissioners' Courts, and, as a rule, local authority is exercised with the greatest moderation.

The following is a comparative table of crime in this Dependency during the last four years :—

	1910	1911	1912	1913
Number of offences reported to the Police ..	403	800	661	664
Number of persons apprehended by the Police or summoned before the Magistrates ..	403	800	661	664
Number of summary convictions :—				
1. For offences against the person	122	94	108	113
2. For slave dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For offences against property other than prædial larceny	87	109	106	101
4. For offences against Health Acts ..	—	183	186	135
5. For offences against Master and Servant Acts, including Acts relating to indentured coolies	—	7	6	27
6. For other offences	196	255	137	162
Number of Convictions in the Superior Courts :—				
1. For offences against the person	—	7	1	11
2. For slave dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For offences against property other than prædial larceny	7	—	—	9
4. For other offences	13	—	6	5
Number of persons acquitted :—				
1. In the Inferior Courts	57	141	95	123
2. In the Superior Courts	2	4	7	6

In the Southern Province there was a decrease of forty-five in the number of offences dealt with in the Provincial Commissioner's Court and only one case was committed for trial to the Chief Commissioner's Court.

The most prevalent crime was that of stealing. The Provincial Commissioner, North-Western Province, states :—

"The total number of offences tried in the Courts at Wa, Lorha, and Tumu remains very much the same as last year.

"I regret to say that under the head 'Homicide' there is a marked increase: five cases having been investigated. Two of these at Lorha were sent to the Superior Court.

"There was also a slight increase in offences against the Master and Servants Ordinance."

The Provincial Commissioner, North-Eastern Province reports as follows :—

"The Province has been exceptionally free from serious crime, two murder charges and one case of robbery with violence committed by French subjects only have been sent for trial to the Superior Court. Two other murders were committed in the Bawku District during the latter part of the year, but unfortunately the culprits have not as yet been apprehended.

"Gambaga District is extraordinarily free of crime; 46 cases in all have occurred against 93 in the previous year. Of these 21 were petty offences such as allowing cattle to stray, and compounds being in an insanitary condition.

"Cattle stealing is the most prevalent crime at Zouaragu, but on investigation it has generally transpired that the owners are in debt in some way to the seizers, either for money borrowed or head-money due on wives. It is highly satisfactory to note that when these cases now occur the owners immediately report their loss to the Administrative Officers, who deal with them on their merits, and they do not, as was invariably the custom a short time ago, collect all their relatives and friends, and regain possession by force of arms, in the process of which lives were usually lost."

It is gratifying to be able to record that, while the Administration is getting more and more into touch with the natives, crime generally is decreasing, and that the Chiefs and headmen now aid the authorities in its detection and punishment. This attitude on their part is due to the fact that they are now in touch with the Commissioners, who have travelled through their country as extensively, and visited their villages as frequently, as was possible.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The census completed in 1911 gave an estimated population of 361,806 to the Northern Territories, with a computed area of 31,100 square miles, an average number of 11·6 persons to the square mile. The census returns for the Southern and North-Western Provinces were considered to be fairly accurate, but those of the North-Eastern Province fell far short of being correct, and it is estimated that not more than two-thirds of the inhabitants were enumerated. Systematic work continues to be carried on in order to render the next census returns reliable in every respect, and Commissioners have been provided with census books in which the names of all villages will be entered and a classified register of their inhabitants kept up to date.

The Provincial Medical Officer, in his Annual Report, submitted to the Principal Medical Officer, states that the number of European officials resident in the Northern Territories averaged 27·53 per diem. The total number of those placed on sick list was 51 for 333 days.

Four officials were invalided and one died at Tumu from yellow fever. The health of European non-officials, eight in number, was good.

The number of native officials resident in the Protectorate averaged 51·95 daily. Of these 12 were placed on the sick list during the year, none were invalided, and there was one death.

The general health of the non-commissioned officers and men of the Gold Coast Regiment and Northern Territories Constabulary was good.

Native Population.

Yellow fever was recorded in the Northern Territories for the first time this year. It appeared first at Bole, and later at Tumu. Seven cases in all were diagnosed—three Europeans, with one death, and four natives, with one death. Dr. Coghill, of the Yellow Fever Commission, was sent up from Seccondee to enquire into the outbreak, and, during his tour from Bole to Tumu and back, obtained statements from the

Chiefs and headmen that led him to the conclusion that the disease had been brought from Moshi Country in Upper Senegal in 1910, causing severe epidemics in many villages of the North-Western Province and of the Bole District. Since that year only sporadic cases had occurred among the natives. It is strange, however, that these alleged epidemics in 1910 passed unnoticed, for the Annual Report for that year stated that there had been no serious epidemics.

A disease strongly resembling *Pestis bubonica* broke out in August at the small fishing village Tunga, near Yeji. Eleven cases occurred within ten days among about thirty inhabitants, eight of which were fatal. The energetic measures adopted by the Medical Officer stamped out the disease and the survivors abandoned the village, which was burnt down. With the exception of the above no epidemics occurred in the Dependency.

Investigations conducted during the year proved that leprosy is not on the increase. It is of uncommon occurrence in the Southern and North-Western Provinces, but is more prevalent in the North-Eastern Province.

The natives look upon it as " a visitation of Allah," but say that it shows no sign of spreading, and are generally averse to compulsory isolation.

The Provincial Commissioner, North-Eastern Province states :—

" The birth rate and death rate are unknown, but the people generally appear to be remarkably healthy and, since no outbreaks of infectious or contagious diseases have occurred during the year, there is no reason to suppose that the latter is higher than usual.

" In fact, from information derived from native sources, the population is considerably on the increase."

The Provincial Medical Officer writes :—

" The natives are learning more and more to appreciate European treatment, and we are gradually breaking down their fears and prejudice. All stations report a steady increase in numbers of those seeking treatment, which is very satisfactory considering how primitive these people are, and for how short a time they have been pacified and brought under our rule."

The total number of natives attending Tamale Hospital during the year was 17,198, and the commoner diseases met with are intestinal, including tapeworm, respiratory, ulcerations, wounds, guinea-worm, parasitic eczema, chronic rheumatic pains and malaria.

The sanitary conditions at all stations, as well as those of the villages in their neighbourhood, and of towns and villages along the main routes are as satisfactory as can be expected, and great credit is due to the Medical Officers for the good work they have performed in this direction with the limited sums placed at their disposal. The Chiefs and people are willing to learn and to realize that the improved sanitary condition of their villages is bringing with it improved health to them and their children. To quote the Provincial Medical Officer :— " Steady, if slow, work is being done at all stations, which would rapidly and readily expand, I believe, if more money, more material, more skilled labour and more easy transport were available."

Water Supply.

Little has been done during the past year. Various parts of three deep well pumps, ordered in 1910, were mislaid at Coomassie, and, when at last discovered in the Public Works yard, were in such a deplorable condition that it would have been useless to send them to Tamale. Semi-rotary pumps have now been ordered as an experiment, and, should they prove satisfactory, others will be obtained. Until the material for boring artesian wells has been provided I fear that we shall never be free from the spectre of a water famine. Even at Tamale during the dry season the natives camp out all night round the wells and water holes to secure a calabashful of water as it slowly percolates through the sandstone, and free fights are of common occurrence, when pots are broken and valuable water spilled. A native told me that on his journey from Bawku to Tamale on his way to Coomassie during the dry season he had paid no less a sum than £2 for water.

The Provincial Medical Officer writes as follows with regard to the water supply of the Northern Territories :—

"To procure an adequate and good supply of water is a serious problem throughout the Northern Territories. In the rainy season there is more than an adequate supply, but for several months of the dry season, and away from the large rivers, water becomes so scarce that in many cases it amounts to a famine and exorbitant prices are asked for a calabash of water.

"It is all surface water. The first difficulty is to find water, and, when found, then to prevent your well being filled up with earth after the very first rains. To prevent this calamity the sides of the well must be lined with stone and cement, and a stone and cement coping and apron made. All this requires skilled labour, which, outside Tamale, is almost non-existent, and the price of cement in the Northern Territories almost prohibitive. The work done in some stations by an energetic District Commissioner and Doctor is wonderful, considering the type of unskilled labour available, and the materials at hand. It must be remembered that the Public Works Department for the whole Northern Territories is represented by one Inspector of Works, with a handful of masons and carpenters, all resident in Tamale. The outlying stations have to do the best they can, no skilled labour, no technical knowledge, few tools, little material, and difficult transport. At any cost the most pressing necessity now is the travelling around the Northern Territories of an experienced Public Works Department official to make properly constructed wells at each station. I cannot urge this point too strongly."

A Mansfield patent automatic water finder for locating water at depths up to 200 feet has been ordered for use in the Northern Territories.

Meteorological Observations.

The rainfall during the year was 48·01 inches, an increase of 15·65 inches over that recorded in 1912, but it is to be noted that more than three-quarters of the total rainfall fell in the months of June, July, August and September and that the country was water-logged during that period.

The following table shows the monthly rainfall for the past three years :—

Month	Year.		
	1911	1912	1913
	ins.	ins.	ins.
January	—	·01	—
February	—	·02	0·72
March	7·98	1·64	0·72
April	1·68	3·75	1·57
May	4·94	2·83	3·31
June	6·21	3·57	6·43
July	6·11	4·06	7·00
August	6·94	7·25	14·58
September	8·09	5·35	11·29
October	1·50	3·87	2·39
November	0·97	—	—
December	—	0·01	—
Total	44·42	32·36	48·01

VIII.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

There are post and telegraph offices at Tamale, Salaga, and Yeji. The telegraph offices at Bole, Wa, and Gambaga remained closed, as such, during the year, but an intermittent and unsatisfactory communication was kept up over these lines between Kintampo, Bole and Wa with Tamale *via* Kintampo, and with Tamale and Gambaga by means of verbally transmitted messages. The District Commissioner, Bole, reports that this telephone service was most ineffective and that during the outbreak of yellow fever at that station communication with Tamale was almost impossible. The closing of these telegraph stations was due to the shortage of qualified operators.

Letters are received and despatched from all stations, and the Commissioners have stamps for sale.

Telegrams were received and despatched at Tamale during the year, as compared with 1912, as follows :—

	Received.		Despatched.	
	1912	1913	1912	1913
Official	2,706	2,359	2,649	2,201
Private	927	1,030	1,208	1,266

Few interruptions occurred in the working of the line, the longest being in September, when the line between Salaga and Yeji was down over the Volta River.

The number of private telegrams despatched from Salaga during the year was 597, as compared with 513 in 1912. The sale of stamps at Tamale Post Office amounted to £189 9*s*. 3*d*., an increase of £2 19*s*. 9*d*. as compared with the sale in 1912. There was an increase of £4 9*s*. 2*d*. on the commission on the sale of postal orders and a decrease of 10*s*. 8*d*. on that of money orders.

At Salaga the Post Office receipts were not quite so good as in 1912. Postal orders to the value of £206 7*s*. 10*d*. were issued as against £258 15*s*. 4*d*., and stamps to the value of £22 2*s*. 1*d*. were sold as against £44 4*s*. 6*d*. in 1912.

The number of mail bags received at Salaga was 977, as against 711 during the previous year. The number of regular postmen was increased to 16 in August, in order to avoid the necessity of getting extra carriers from the town at short notice.

IX.—RELIGION.

The Wesleyan Methodist Mission obtained permission in 1912 to establish itself in the Northern Territories. The General Superintendent of the Gold Coast District states that it is not the intention of the Mission to commence operations in the Dependency anywhere but at Tamale for some years to come, and until the construction of a Mission Station has been completed.

The Government School House is lent to the resident Missionary for services on Sundays.

The Roman Catholic Mission (Pères Blancs) established at Navarro in 1906 continues to make progress and has a more or less constant attendance of over 500 adult natives at the Mission.

The relative numbers of Christians, Mohammadans and Pagans in the Northern Territories, as shown in the Census Returns for 1911, were as follows :—

Christians.	Mohammedans.	Pagans.
133.	42,598.	319,075.

Mohammedanism would appear to make little, if any, progress in this Dependency, and is, in the case of many of those who profess its tenets, of a debased form, and more than tainted with the prevailing paganism. The bulk of the Mohammedan population is to be found in the Southern Province.

Larabanga, in the Bole District, is a stronghold of Mohammedans, and it is the proud boast of the Chief and Imam that not a single pagan resides in the town. The latter carefully guards an ancient copy of the Koran, bound in several volumes, which is stated to have been the property of the Mohammedan founder of Larabanga, who came from Mecca, having left his Koran behind. After many days of prayer and fasting, the Koran was miraculously restored to him at Larabanga, and has been reverenced by succeeding Imams ever since.

The chief centres of Mohammedanism are, in the Southern Province, Tamale and its surrounding villages, Salaga, Bole and Larabanga; in the North-Eastern Province, Gambaga, Wale-Wale, and Bawku; in the North-Western Province, Wa, Gurupisi, Uasa, and Wahabu.

A Mohammedan priest resident at Navarro, in the North-Eastern Province, is reported to have made no headway at all, and has, so far, not succeeded in making a single convert.

Although the pagan portion of the population show no great desire, as a whole, to abandon their form of belief, they exhibit no sort of resentment towards the members of other denominations.

The belief of the heathen portion of the native community is a primordial animism. Each town or village has its own "fetish," which is usually to be found at the entrance to the Chief's or priest's compound, and takes various forms, such as a conical pile of earth, or a three-pronged stick, supporting a pot in which grows a shrub, grass, or an aquatic plant.

These represent the "fetish" itself, which is recognised in many forms, as of lightning, a lion, hawk, crocodile, snake, tortoise or other animal, bird or reptile. Such "fetishes" guard and watch over the general welfare of the villages and its inhabitants and communicate with the latter through their priests. When offended these "fetishes" are propitiated by the sacrifice of sheep or goats, and of black cats or dogs.

Every family has its own "fetish"; usually a conical heap of clay with a small pot sunk in its apex. It is to be seen outside every compound, and is consulted on all matters relating to the welfare of the family. Sacrifices are made to it by killing fowls over it, and allowing their blood to run into the pot and over its support, the bird's feathers then being stuck on before the blood congeals.

The "lightning fetish" is the most dreaded, and is universally invoked to revenge theft. No native would dream of attempting to arrest a conflagration caused by lightning. The veneration of ancestors also forms part of the native religious belief, and their shades are consulted through the family fetish.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Political.

The excellent relations existing between our officials and those of the two Powers whose boundaries are contiguous to this Dependency were maintained throughout the year. The Provincial Commissioner, North-Western Province, reports that the Resident at Leo has on more than one occasion visited Tumu and the Resident and Medical Officer of Gaoua also visited Lorha. He was invited repeatedly to visit Leo but was unable to do so.

The Provincial Commissioner, North-Eastern Province, writes :—

"Excellent relations have existed between the officials of this Province and the French and Germans on our north and eastern frontiers. Cordial invitations have been received to visit their stations, but these, however, could not be accepted, as it was inconvenient to leave the Districts at the time.

"One of the junior French officials visited Navarro during the latter part of the year."

Administration.

The Chief Commissioner returned from a tour of inspection on the 23rd January and handed over the Administration to Major R. A. Irvine, C.M.G., on the 1st of April, who remained in charge of the Protectorate until the Chief Commissioner's return to Tamale from leave on the 6th December.

As stated in last year's Report I was met everywhere during the tour that I concluded in January by record gatherings of Chiefs and people, and returned to Tamale much impressed with the excellent work performed by the Provincial and District Commissioners in the administration of their respective Provinces and Districts. The year under review has been eminently satisfactory from an administrative and from every other point of view, and I believe that the natives are realizing fully the benefits they now enjoy under the existing Administration.

Their one fear appears to be that of direct taxation, in lieu of which they willingly provide all the labour that is required of them for upkeep of roads, rest houses, etc. The Chiefs enter into friendly competition with each other as to which of them has the best built European rest houses in his towns and villages, so much so that more than one Chief has asked for permission to build such in villages remote from the main roads.

There exists to-day 70 rest houses in the Southern, 65 in the North-Western, and 95 in the North-Eastern Provinces, a fact which in itself points to the excellent relations that now exist generally between the natives and the Administrative Officers of this Dependency.

Native Affairs.

The Provincial Commissioner of the Southern Province reports as follows :—

"Throughout the year under review the relations of the Chiefs with the Government and with each other have been very satisfactory with the exception of the Chiefs of Miong and Kpabia, in which the latter had to be destooled in September for refusing to recognise the former as his paramount Chief.

"In the Yeji District a small difference arose in the early part of the year between the Chiefs of Broomassie and Sumunshi, and the Sumunshi people began to leave their villages. The matter was easily rectified and the people returned to their villages.

"The District Commissioner, Bole, reports that since the Chief Commissioner settled the Yabum case there is universal satisfaction."

The Provincial Commissioner, North-Western Province, writes as follows :—

"The state of the Province as a whole is eminently satisfactory. The relations of the Chiefs with the Government is cordial and the same may be said with regard to the Chiefs' intercourse with each other.

"The only people who gave any trouble were a section of Cheripong near the River Volta in Dagarti. After careful enquiries I am of opinion that ignorance and fear was at the root of the matter and not any idea of resistence to lawful authority.

"The people are now well in hand and have built a new rest house in their town without the aid of the Constabulary."

The North-Eastern Province, which until within the last two years was by far the most backward of the three Provinces into which the Dependency is divided, has, during the year under review, progressed in a truly astonishing manner, and its inhabitants can to-day be described as being in every way as amenable, contented and peaceful as are those of the sister Provinces.

A perusal of the following report by the Provincial Commissioner will make this satisfactory state of affairs fully apparent :—

"Throughout the year under review the relations between the Government and the Chiefs have been perfectly satisfactory, and they have willingly assisted the Administration in every way.

"One disturbance occurred at Winduri, due more to misplaced enthusiasm on the part of the people to see that the Government instructions were obeyed than to any other cause, and was of no political importance whatever.

"It was found necessary to destool three chiefs, namely Adichuro, of Kanjarga ; Azuziri, of Tiana ; and Atteechi, of Chuchilliga. These Chiefs had neither the confidence nor respect of their people, not so much on account of their own failings, but because of their inability to control the predatory habits of their sons and near relatives. Their removal has had a beneficial effect in each case.

"Very satisfactory progress has been made with regard to the question of paramountcy. The Na of Mamprussi was appointed Paramount by the late Governor of the Colony, and no difficulty was experienced anywhere to his being cordially accepted as such. He has during the year officially visited all the tribes in the Province, and was accorded everywhere an enthusiastic reception, especially by the Kanjarga and Nankani Chiefs, who gave him handsome presents and killed cattle in honour of the occasion.

"If his welcome was less warm in Grunshi, it was due more to the avaricious temperament of the Chief of Navarro, who has never been known to give away anything, rather than to the fact that the Grunshis are less proud than the others of being included in the Mamprussi race.

"The difficulty was to get the tribes to recognise a head chief, but this has been successfully accomplished both in Kanjarga and Grunshi, who now recognise the Chief of Sandema and the Chief of Navarro as their respective heads.

"The Commissioner of the Gambaga District reports as follows :—

"This District has been in a very quiet and satisfactory condition during the past year, and I can safely say that, during the whole of my political experience in this and other Colonies, it has never fallen to my lot to administer justice to a more willing, loyal, and obedient people than the Mamprussi natives of this District.

"I was travelling in the District the whole of July, a small portion of August, and from the 27th of October till the 1st of December, and during that period I have had the best of opportunity to make myself acquainted with the character and condition of the people under my control. I have made roads and built rest-houses, and I say, with a certain amount of pride, that all the work which I wished has been accomplished with a willingness often absent in the employment of the highest paid labour.

"The various chiefs are now on the best of terms with each other, respecting and obeying their Paramount Chief of Nalerigu, who, with the help of the Leman of Gambaga, is of the greatest assistance to me in supplying the many carriers required, and in the adjustment of petty disputes and intrigues."

Roads.

The Provincial Commissioners report on the roads in their respective Provinces as follows :—

Southern Province.

In the Tamale District. Tamale—Tamale Port road re-formed for a distance of 20 miles.

Tamale—Karaga road, 28 miles constructed.

Tamale—Nasia road, 35 miles of this road was re-formed.

In Tamale the main roads in the town were repaired and new roads constructed to and from the caravanserai.

In the Salaga District a road from Krupi to Lanto, 17½ miles, has been completed.

The road from Bole to Bandankwanta has been bridged.

In the Yeji district two bridges have been erected over the Pramo and Permambo Rivers.

North-Western Province.

In the Wa District the total mileage of ditched roads exceeds 250.

In the Lorha District 109 miles of ditched road exist.

In the Tumu District the roads from Tumu to the Lorha District boundary, and from Tumu to the Sissili River, were completed. Bridges erected with unskilled labour are not satisfactory and, as a rule, are washed away every year during the rainy season. Twenty-two bridges on the Lorha road were washed away in one single storm. It is now proposed to replace these bridges by pontoon boats on the larger, and by drifting the crossings on the smaller rivers.

North-Eastern Province.

The Province is particularly well off in roads made to the width of 20 feet and trenched, the total distance of which is 530 miles.

All the trade routes and towns of any importance are thus connected. In addition to these, paths cleared to the width of ten feet exist everywhere.

The following new roads have been made during the year, trenched, and 20 feet wide :—

Navarro District. Doninga market to Weassi *via* Kanjarga, 24 miles.

Gambaga District. Sissili River *via* Yagiba and Kubori to the southern boundary, 16 miles ; Laura to Yagiba, 7 miles.

Cleared roads not trenched, 10 feet wide:—Ijesi to Kubori, 15 miles; Dua to Kubori (*via* Passankwairi, Weima Bimma, to Kubori), 41 miles.

Zouaragu District. The road from Zouaragu to the Navarro boundary has been re-made, 13 miles.

Rest-Houses.

Excellent rest-houses, to the number of 230, have been built in every town of importance in the Dependency.

They are generally of the round-house type, with conical, thatched roofs, and stand in large compounds often surrounded by thick "swish" walls.

They are kept in repair by the villagers, and it was not found necessary to send anyone to supervise the work during the year.

Ferries.

The Provincial Commissioner, Southern Province, reports :—

"The Government ferry at Yeji has been well maintained during the year and shows a considerable increase in the takings over 1912. The total takings of the ferry during the year under review amounted to £1,958 2*s.* 3*d.*, as compared with £959 17*s.* 4*d.* in 1912. This increase is no doubt due to the fact that the ferry at Katakunji was not opened for traffic during any part of 1913. Two steel pontoons were placed on the ferry during the year, and have proved extremely useful. They will take as many as fifty people without loads and thirty people with loads. A section of a steel pontoon was placed on the river at Prang, but was washed away and lost during the wet season, when the river rose over six feet in one night. The ferry across the Pru River is owned and worked by the Chief of Prang, but is only used in the wet season, from about the middle of July to October or November.

"Regular ferries are run at the junction of the Dakar and Volta by the Chief of Pajai and at Kaffaba by the Chief of that place.

"Two sections of steel pontoons were placed on the Black Volta between Kintampo and Bole during the year, also half sections on the Yamalaga and Nabogo Rivers, but are only used during the rainy season."

All other ferries in the Northern Territories are worked by the local Chiefs.

The Provincial Commissioner, North-Eastern Province, writes :—

"All ferries in the Province are fordable, with the exception of about two-and-a-half months of the year, from the beginning of August to the middle of October.

"Steel canoes have been placed at Nasia and on the White Volta at Naga and Paragu. This year, owing to the shortage of rain, they were little used. These ferries are controlled by the native Chiefs, who usually accept fowls, salt, etc., in payment for tolls, and in consequence it is impossible to estimate what amount is taken annually."

Transport.

The unsatisfactory transport service to the Northern Territories was replaced in June by a new system, whereby stores were despatched by motor lorries to Ejura from Coomassie, thence to Yeji by carrier

transport, and by the Volta River by canoes to Tamale Port. In September a permanent gang of 25 men was employed for transport work between Tamale and Tamale Port, and it was found necessary to employ a second gang during the following month. Since the inauguration of this new system 1,064 loads have been brought in to Tamale, and the employment of permanent gangs relieved, to a great extent, the local natives who had previously been called upon to act as carriers. Northern Territories stores for the North-Western Province continue to be sent up to Kintampo, whence they were removed to their destination by locally hired carriers, recruited from the districts to which the stores are allotted.

I regret to say that the new system of transport has worked, so far, most unsatisfactorily. An unprecedented amount of looting of loads by their carriers occurred between Coomassie and Tamale Port, without the possibility of tracing the culprits. Many losses were caused by breakages, and by water which permeated the contents of boxes placed in the leaky canoes that transported them from Yeji to Tamale Port. The delivery of stores was in no way expedited; in fact loads very frequently arrived at Tamale from two to three months after they had been despatched from Coomassie.

The supply of local transport in the North-Western and North-Eastern Provinces was satisfactory, but since so many of them have worked in Ashanti there is a growing tendency among the natives to look askance at the present rate of pay—sixpence per diem—for carriers employed in the Northern Territories.

Public Works.

The following Public Works were completed or put in hand during the year:—

Southern Province. At Tamale additions were made to the hospital and prison, and the foundations of a bungalow for the Commandant, Northern Territories Constabulary, were laid. A slaughter house near the market was built.

During the heavy rains that fell in August the dam, built in 1910 by voluntary native labour, burst one night and could not be repaired during the year. The escape of the large volume of water it contained proved to be a great loss to the natives, who have promised to rebuild it next year under European supervision.

At Salaga the Medical Officer's quarters, which had been destroyed during a tornado, were rebuilt, and a new bungalow for the Provincial Commissioner was erected.

The District Commissioner, Yeji, reports that the rebuilding of the station occupied most of the dry season, when District Commissioner's quarters and offices, a court house, district office, guard room and transport office were erected. The rest-house was re-roofed.

North-Western Province. At Lorha the District Commissioner's quarters, which were set on fire by lightning and completely destroyed in 1912, were rebuilt.

At Tumu a new District Commissioner's house was built.

Numerous minor works were carried out in all the provinces.

Northern Territories Topographical Survey.

The headquarters of this department was moved from Salaga to Tamale early in the year.

The following account of the work done during the year under review has been supplied by Captain P. S. Mackesy, R.E., Deputy Director of Surveys :—

"By the end of 1913 the survey of some 6,000 square miles on a scale of $\frac{1}{250000}$ was completed, including the whole of the Salaga and Tamale sheets, and the extension of the rigid framework and detail survey was proceeding. The work of reproducing and publishing the map is being carried out by the Geographical Section of the General Staff at the War Office, and it is hoped that the two finished sheets will soon be available."

Entomological Research Commission.

Dr. J. J. Simpson, of the West African Entomological Research Commission (Colonial Office), traversed the Northern Territories during 1913.

In all he spent three-and-a-half months in the Northern Territories —February, March, April and part of May.

During this time he visited all stations and carried out a survey of the various insects and other arthropods in the Protectorate, more especially those implicated in the transmission of disease. An examination of the blood and of parasites of game and domestic animals was also undertaken when possible.

A detailed report with a list of the blood-sucking insects found in the various towns visited, and with a map showing the distribution of the various species of tsetse in the Northern Territories, is at present in the press, and will be issued in the forthcoming number of the Bulletin of Entomological Research.

Preventive Service.

The Customs Preventive Service has eight stations along the eastern frontier of the Northern Territories at which goods are imported and duties collected. They are situated at Kunkwa, Dogankade, Krupe, Kpabia, Sung, Nyanson, Gambaga and Bawku. Of the two last named stations the Provincial Commissioner, North-Eastern Province, writes as follows :—

"They are inspected once every two months by the Supervisor, but in the meantime the patrols posted along the boundary are under the control of a native clerk, and consequently irregularities have occurred.

"It is feared their conduct will have a prejudicial effect on the trade, and since the revenue collected by them is about the same as it was before their arrival, and is greatly exceeded by the expenditure incurred on them, their presence is hardly justified."

It is now proposed to close down these stations. There is also a preventive station near the confluence of the Dakar with the Volta River, at which goods are not imported. An annual report on the work of the preventive service is submitted by the supervisor in charge to the Comptroller of Customs.

Immigration and Emigration.

The Provincial Commissioner, Southern Province, reports that no cases of either immigration or emigration have been reported during the year. A large number of young men from the North-Western and North-Eastern Provinces travel down to Ashanti and the Colony in search of work, but usually return within two years. I have referred to this under Head I, "Financial."

The Provincial Commissioner, North-Eastern Province, reports :—

"From native sources it is reported there was a large exodus from French territory when the conscription laws were enforced, and a very large number of Fulanis and Moshis have gone to Coomassie in search of work this dry season on account of the total failure of the crops in the interior.

"Many of the natives, especially from the Gambaga District, have also gone south in search of work, and in consequence labour is now scarce there, but these all return as soon as the farming season commences."

Labour.

There is still an adequate supply of unskilled labour at rates of pay of from 6d. to 10d. per diem, but the drain on it occasioned by the exodus of young men from the Protectorate to Ashanti is beginning to make itself felt, especially as those who have returned after earning from 1s. to 2s. per diem are not inclined to go back to our rates of pay. All skilled labour is obtained from the Colony or Ashanti at daily rates of from 1*s*. 9*d*. to 3*s*. 6*d*. There are no openings for white labour.

Climate.

The climate of the Northern Territories is unhealthy, and is particularly trying during the months of January, February, March, and April, when the intense heat has an enervating effect alike on Europeans and natives.

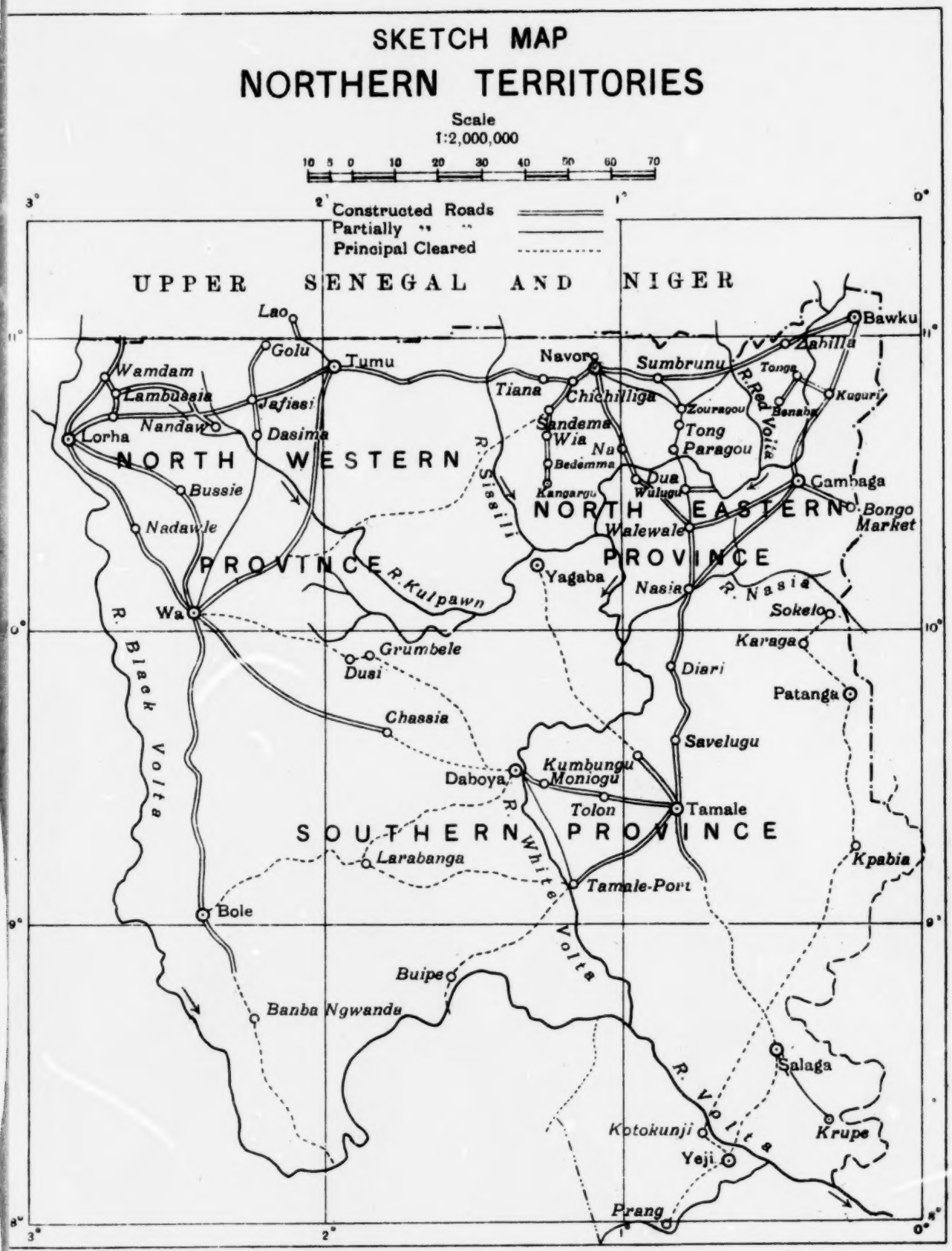
Miscellaneous.

A record of tribal marks and marks of adornment in use among the natives of the Northern Territories, the preparation of which was undertaken in 1912, is being continued, and the reports submitted by the Provincial and District Commissioners are being checked carefully before final submission.

Messrs. Paul Hutter and Company's store at Tamale was closed at the end of the year, and, I regret to say, is not to be reopened.

C. H. ARMITAGE,

Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories.



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COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
769	Basutoland	1912–1913
770	Gold Coast	1912
771	Ashanti	"
772	Nyasaland	1912–1913
773	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
774	British Solomon Islands	"
775	Colonial Survey Committee	"
776	Tongan Islands Protectorate	1911–1913
777	Swaziland	1912–1913
778	Imperial Institute	1912
779	Barbados	1912–1913
780	British Guiana	"
781	Entomological Research Committee	"
782	Southern Nigeria	1912
783	Jamaica	1912–1913
784	British Honduras	1912
785	Northern Nigeria	"
786	Malta	1912–1913
787	Uganda	"
788	Mauritius	1912
789	Straits Settlements	"
790	Trinidad and Tobago	1912–1913
791	East Africa Protectorate	"
792	Grenada	1912
793	Leeward Islands	1912–1913
794	St. Lucia	"
795	St. Vincent	"
796	Bermuda	1912
797	Ceylon	"
798	Gibraltar	1913
799	St. Helena	"
800	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
801	Seychelles	"
802	Ceylon	"
803	Bermuda	"
804	Weihaiwei	"
805	Gambia	"
806	Gold Coast	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey
88	Imperial Institute	Oils, Oilseeds, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913

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1914.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 863.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1914.

(For Report for 1913 see No. 807.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

October, 1915.

LONDON:
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CONTENTS.

		Page.
I.	Financial	5
II.	Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	5
III.	Legislation	12
IV.	Education	12
V.	Government Institutions	12
VI.	Judicial Statistics	13
VII.	Vital Statistics	15
VIII.	Posts and Telegraphs	18
IX.	Religion	20
X.	General Observations	22

Sketch Map.

No. 863.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

(For Report for 1913 see No. 807.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Accra,
30th August, 1915.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward, herewith, the report of the Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories for the year 1914.

1. There is little to comment on in the report, and except for the war there was nothing to disturb the even tenor of conditions in this Protectorate. The Northern Territories Constabulary performed most useful services in connection with the operations against Togoland; and the frontier Chiefs exhibited much eagerness to assist our arms in the hope that tribes long divided by artificial and unnatural political boundaries may now be reunited under the British flag.

The many Mahommedans in the Protectorate maintained a staunch allegiance to the British cause, and, although on the outbreak of war with Turkey some wandering mallams made determined efforts in the neighbouring French territory to stir up disaffection, Captain Armitage is able to record that "not a single fanatical Mahommedan ventured to preach sedition in the Protectorate."

I have already reported to you the generous contributions of the Northern Territories' Chiefs to the Imperial War Fund.

2. The trade in cattle appears likely to continue to be the staple industry of the Northern Territories. Although the war and a deficient rainfall caused a great falling off in the North-Eastern Province, it is satisfactory to note that a new cattle trade, described by Captain Armitage as one of great importance, has developed in the North-Western Province.

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3. Captain Armitage offers few comments on the cotton industry in the Protectorate. As stated in my despatch of the 28th August, I consider that owing to the consistently poor return per acre obtainable in the Northern Territories, it is futile to continue the attempt to push an industry which has no prospect whatever of becoming remunerative.

4. With reference to the Chief Commissioner's remarks on labour, the Acting Colonial Secretary (Mr. Harper) notes :—

> "It is satisfactory from our point of view to find that the natives are coming to Ashanti to work. A few years ago they had to be shepherded. Many of them are to be found in the cocoa districts of the Eastern Province, and were employed on railway construction. The disadvantage is that the cheap rates of labour in the Northern Territories itself are disappearing."

5. I have only to add that the Chief Commissioner, Captain C. H. Armitage, C.M.G., D.S.O., administered the Northern Territories not only throughout the year 1914, but up till July of the present year, and the continued prosperity and loyalty of the Protectorate is a significant testimony to the sagacity with which he controls its affairs.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

A. R. SLATER,

Acting Governor

The Right Honourable

A. Bonar Law, M.P.,

&c., &c.,

Secretary of State for the Colonies,

Downing Street, S.W.

I.—FINANCIAL.

Nothing occurred during the year 1914 to alter the conditions that have obtained in this Protectorate since the abolition of the "Caravan Tolls" on the 1st September, 1908, from which date the revenue became an almost negligible quantity.

The excellent main roads which traverse the Dependency are made use of by the many caravans passing to and from Ashanti without payment of any kind, although the removal of the "Caravan Toll" was at first regarded by the native traders with the greatest dismay, as they considered that the receipt that they received on payment of the toll represented a guarantee for their free and unmolested passage through the Protectorate.

It is to be noted that the Customs receipts for goods imported for consumption in the Northern Territories are credited to the Colony, as is the revenue made by the Sekondi-Kumasi Railway from the transport of live stock which arrives at Kumasi from or through the Northern Territories.

Nor has it been realised how great an amount of labour, without which the prosperity of Ashanti, and to a lesser degree that of the Colony, would be jeopardised, has been, and continues to be, supplied to both from this Protectorate. The remarkable growth of the cocoa industry in Ashanti is due, in a large measure, to labour supplied from the Northern Territories. The Ashanti, never an agriculturist, is only too pleased to pay the native of the Northern Territories from 1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per diem in addition to his food, in exchange for his work on the cocoa farms.

The prosperity of the firms trading in Kumasi is also attributable in part to the purchases made by native traders from this Protectorate, the *ad valorem* duty on which is credited to the revenue of the Colony.

The nickel coinage of three denominations—one penny, one half-penny and one tenth of a penny—introduced into the Protectorate in June, 1913, has become exceedingly popular among the natives, and, if a sufficient supply were provided, would completely supersede the cowrie.

Tenths are the coins most in demand, and a very large supply of these will be needed to satisfy native demands.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

As stated in previous Reports on this Protectorate, it is impossible, under present conditions, to give more than an approximate estimate of the volume of trade entering and leaving the country. Trade statistics are kept at stations situated on the main trade routes, but as the registration of live stock and trade goods is voluntary, and as

many caravans—especially those composed of live stock—pass through the stations during the night, the figures given can be looked on only as an indication of a general increase or decrease in trade, as the case may be. The trade routes from the north through Daboya to Kintampo, and others of minor importance, do not pass through any stations where statistics can be collected, nor are such compiled at Kintampo in Ashanti. Imports consist generally of cotton and woollen goods, silk handkerchiefs and lengths, hardware, haberdashery, beads, brass rods, tobacco, tinned provisions, and kola nuts from Ashanti.

There has been a great falling off in the caravan trade of all descriptions in the North-Eastern Province and the Commissioner reports a total decrease of 41,155 in cattle, sheep, donkeys, and donkey and carrier' loads, but this is accounted for by the war and the unusually small rainfall, as well as by the drought in Moshi, and is more than compensated for by the greatly increased trade passing through the North-Western Province, of which the Commissioner writes as follows:

"In the Annual Report for the North-Western Province for 1912 was written 'but little trade comes from the North through Lorha.' Since then a vast change has come over the scene. The schedules of trade statistics show the enormous increase in the number of cattle, the greater part of which come through Lorha.

"This trade is new to the Northern Territories and is of great importance even if only the value of the herds is considered.

"These herds, frequently 300 in number, and owned by one man, come from the fertile grass lands of the Niger Valley from around Segou, San Mopti, and Safara, some 400 to 450 miles North of Wa.

"Nearly all are large humped bullocks in prime condition, which, if there is a good market, should fetch £5 apiece in Ashanti.

"Enquiries made from returning traders, however, show that the market has been flooded and prices very low; consequently many sold their herds at a loss but are in no way discouraged and say they will return again and perhaps next time make a better deal.

"Their losses on the road are about 11 per cent. as there are few drivers, frequently only two or three Fulanis to 100 or 150 cattle. But little trade goods are brought back; instead, they acquire English sovereigns and French dollars (5 franc pieces). The gold is readily exchanged for them in all French stations, five dollars being given for a sovereign. The export of gold is therefore very considerable, but to find out even approximately what it amounts to is a difficult matter, as it is not easy to intercept and interrogate individual returning traders.

"As an example, on the 20th October three traders stated they had passed Wa with 240 cattle; of these 13 per cent. died on the road, and after buying gowns and cloths for themselves and their followers in Kumasi, the traders were returning with £205 in gold and some dollars.

"Probably at least 70 per cent. of the cattle sales returns to French country in gold.

"In spite of reports of a bad market there has been an increase in the number of cattle taken south by natives of this Province, who, it is satisfactory to note, are themselves competing with the Wongaras and Moshi, and going north into the Moshi country to buy their stock and keeping them in a good feeding country for two or three months before driving them to Ashanti.

"One small herd of 39 owned by Walas so purchased, averaged 46s. a head in Kumasi, which was above the average price. These traders return with cloth, kola, and dollars, the latter wherewith to purchase cattle again in Moshi.

"Trade other than the cattle trade is insignificant and consists principally of cloth and hardware, most of the former being purchased in Ashanti by men who have gone down to work there.

"In parts of Lobi there are still many natives to whom cloth is unknown and the arrival of a boy in a white coat, who had been working in Ashanti, at one such village, was the signal for some 30 to 40 youths of the village starting empty-handed to go to the country where such marvels were obtained. Were traders to show a little more enterprise, good business could be done, as this part of the country is rich in live stock, particularly sheep and goats.

"The value of hides is beginning to be recognised by the people and loads of them are now sent south.

"Attempts have been made to encourage the collection of beeswax, but so far without result, except in very small quantities. Many of the Chiefs, however, have shown much interest in specimens that have been shown them and it is a trade that it is hoped will develope in time."

The Commissioner Southern Province states:—

"In spite of the war and a very bad drought, the trade passing through the Province has been quite satisfactory.

"Live stock certainly has decreased, sheep showing a falling off of nearly 10,000 and cattle of 2,000. This is undoubtedly due to the drought in the earlier part of the year, many cattle dying on the road from want of water, and to the outbreak of war in the last half of the year. It is unfortunate to have to note that the export of our only purely local product, viz., shea-butter, shows a great falling off, a decrease of over 5,000 loads. This possibly may be accounted for by the lowness of the river, as the export of this product has been on the increase for the last few years. It may, however, be said that the export of shea-butter cannot increase to any great extent until there is cheaper transport. The import of European cloth shows a good increase and so also does that of kola.

"The trading in most of the goods mentioned in our statistics, with the exception perhaps of shea-butter and dawa dawa, is in 90 per cent. of cases done by non-natives of the Province. These men come down from the north with cattle, etc., and spend practically no money on the road. They exchange Moshi cloth, crystals for darkening the eyes, etc., for food.

"Although they benefit Kumasi and other parts of the Colony, where they sell their cattle for cash and buy cloth in return, it is quite doubtful if they are of any benefit at all to the Northern Territories.

"The trade in European cloth is steadily on the increase, viz.:—5,818 loads in 1912, 11,464 loads in 1913, 13,616 in 1914. I believe the majority of these loads go up into French country, but still I think the fact of the increase is a clear indication that the people of the Northern Territories are developing a growing demand for European cloth.

"With regard to local trade, this consists practically altogether in the sale of foodstuffs. There is also a small trade in such things as enamel work, copper rods, beads, and cloth.

"A certain number of Dagombas now go up to the northern portions of the Protectorate, *e.g.*, Kanjarga, and there purchase cattle which they drive to Kumasi. This trade by natives of the Province is on the increase."

Travellers had to pay for water for their personal use, and during the dry season a soldier on his way to Kumasi on leave from Northern Nigeria informed me on his arrival at Tamale that he had paid no less a sum than £2 for water since he had entered the Protectorate at Bawku.

The figures available give a total of 332,564 loads registered during the year as against 310,699 in 1912, an increase of 21,865 loads.

The principal increases appear under the following heads: Miscellaneous, 57,932, and Cattle, 7,079, while decreases occur under Sheep 24,033, Donkeys 3,373, Dawa Dawa 3,083, Shea-butter 5,765½, Cloth 1,385, and Native Blankets 1,830.

It is very probable that, after the occupation of Togoland by the Allies, many cattle, sheep, and donkey caravans travelled down the Togoland road along the left bank of the Volta to Kete Kratchi.

During the year kola and salt were exported over the inland frontiers through the Preventive Stations established on the Eastern boundary of the Protectorate as follows:—

Destination.	Kola (lbs.).	Salt (lbs.).
British	734,860	952
French	297,240	2,412
German	195,049	11,088
Total	1,227,149	14,452

an increase of 263,192 lbs. in kola nuts, and a decrease of 3,832 lbs. in salt as compared with the previous year's figures. The decrease in salt occurred through the small quantity exported to Togoland, which was 6,580 lbs. less than in 1913.

The above figures were supplied by Officers of the Preventive Service.

Fish, caught in the Volta River and sun-dried, are exported to Ashanti and the Coast, but this industry is in the hands of the Bator tribe, who come up the river and encamp on its banks during the fishing season.

Agriculture.

The comparatively small rainfall caused a partial failure of the crops and the price of foodstuffs rose considerably throughout the Protectorate. The Commissioners have reported as follows:—

Southern Province.

"The area of land under cultivation seems to be steadily on the increase. The crops during the year were seriously affected by the drought, those of maize and ground-nuts being particularly touched, and so also was millet. Guinea corn seems to have done well, especially in the Karaga area.

"Yam crops were only very average and yams are in consequence now rising in price. It is peculiar that more rice is not grown, as much low-lying swampy ground would appear to be suitable for its cultivation.

"The demand for food is on the increase and is greater than the supply, and, in consequence, the price of food is gradually rising. There is always a serious shortage of food between May and the cutting of the first millet crop, this fact alone demonstrating that not enough food is grown. It is thought that the cause of this is due to a certain extent to our calls for carriers at all times of the year, as not alone does this practice deplete certain country-sides at critical farming times, but also the young men are inclined to leave the country on account of it."

The District Commissioner, Salaga, says :—

"Several Chiefs report that on account of the constant demands for carriers their young men are leaving and are going to Kumasi and the Coast, where they can get better pay.

"In the Tamale District alone over 4,000 boys were taken from their farms for periods varying from four to thirty days, and when we calculate the total male population who can work on farms this drain must be very heavy on a population which is purely agricultural."

The District Commissioner, Bole, reports :—

"The quantity of game in the district seriously affects farming, many of the young men being away from their villages continually in the pursuit of game when they should be on their farms.

"There are small herds of cattle kept by the natives in the Tamale, Salaga, and Bole Districts, but none in Yeji on account of the tsetse fly. The question of encouraging the people to increase their herds has been frequently discussed. The first difficulty is, however, water. When natives themselves have very often to go four and five miles for water for their own use, how can large herds of cattle be kept by them ? The Southern Province would naturally be the country to encourage the natives most to breed cattle in, as it is nearest the southern markets, and the people ought to be able to compete successfully with natives from the north, who have to drive their cattle very long distances.

"On the other hand the country may for some reason not be suitable for the breeding of cattle, and if an experiment was made by the Government, perhaps the fine grass lands of Kanjarga or Fra Fra (the North-Eastern Province) would produce better results. Generally speaking, it may be stated that the natives of the Province do not breed cattle for export. Rather they keep them for domestic uses."

Agricultural Station, Tamale.

An area of 98 acres was under cultivation during the year. Of this, 25 acres were planted with various varieties of cotton, but owing to many of the plots becoming water-logged, and thus preventing the growth of the plants, a comparatively poor yield of 1,812 lbs. of cotton was collected, a decrease of 4½ lbs. per acre, as compared with the 1913 crop.

Other crops consisted of yams, maize, guinea corn, rice, the "fra fra" and sweet potatoes, ground-nuts, pigeon peas, and several varieties of beans. Many trees in the timber section died during the year owing to the drought. A large number of ornamental and shade trees, as well as shrubs and plants, were distributed from the nursery.

Stock Farms.

The herd of cattle had increased from 35 at the commencement of the year to 47 at its close. All draught work on the farm was done by three oxen and a bull.

Sisal hemp was planted at Daboya and Tamale-Port in 1913, and these plots were maintained by the Chiefs. The Senior Curator visited them towards the end of the year under review, and has reported on them favourably.

British Cotton Growing Association.

The total purchases of native cotton made by the Association during the year was 23,708 lbs. as compared with 23,175 lbs. in 1913, 7,849 lbs. in 1912, and 4,172 lbs. in 1911.

The Manager reports as follows :—

Cotton Purchases—Native.

Southern Province, Tamale ..	13,307 lbs.
North-Eastern Province	6,431 ,,
North-Western Province	3,970 ,,
Total purchases for the season ..	23,708 ,,
Lint purchases ex-Agricultural Station, various varieties.. ..	555 ,,

Seed Distribution.

Southern Province	14,426 ,,
North-Eastern Province	2,580 ,,
North-Western Province	780 ,,
Total quantity of seed distributed ..	17,786 ,,

"Travelling.—Total number of days spent in actual travelling by various members of the staff—1,059.

"*European Staff engaged in the Northern Territories.*—During the first four months, two, and for the remainder of the year, one.

"*Remarks.*—Buying Centres. Seven stations were opened in the North-Eastern and North Western Provinces, the purchases from these districts making up the decrease of 10,000 lbs. in the purchases from the Southern Province, as compared with the year 1913. This decrease, so I understand, was due to the heavy rains during the months of August and September, the plants becoming water-logged and stunted. The purchases made at the various stations in the North-Eastern and North-Western Provinces compare favourably with those obtaining in the Southern Province during the first and second seasons.

"*Ginning Centres.*—With a view to reducing the cost of transport on cotton seed and seed cotton, machines were erected at Wa in the North-Western Province and at Gambaga in the North-Eastern Province for the purpose of ginning all cotton purchased in the respective Provinces.

"*Livestock.*—For some time horses and donkeys have been used for transport purposes between Tamale and the North-Western Province, and owing to the fact of their having to pass through the tsetse belt en route for Wa, nine donkeys and four horses have died as the result of infection."

North-Western Province.

"The season on the whole was a bad one, the rains falling in June and July, and the later and usually heavy rains of September being smaller than usual. In consequence most of the bean and ground-nut crops were a failure.

"Just at the time when these should have been harvested there was an influx of Moshis to buy foodstuffs, there being a famine in their own country. The prices they offered, usually in undesirable cowries beloved by the Dagartis, tempted many improvident people to sell what they had, with the natural result that when their bean crops failed they were short of food.

"This invasion of the Dagarti markets caused prices to go up over 50 per cent. in a few weeks for all foodstuffs in Wa and surrounding markets. In the northern districts of the Province, where food was very scarce, as last year's harvest was a light one, after another light crop this year, and in many places a total failure of all the first crops, the outlook is serious."

The Commissioner reports that the comparatively small supply of cotton brought in for sale by the natives of his Province was far from being encouraging.

North-Eastern Province.

"Owing to the very scanty rainfall, most crops have been a partial failure, and the cotton crop wholly so.

"This latter fact is rather disheartening, coming at a time when the people were just beginning to show some interest in the growth of cotton. It will be difficult to regain the good ground that has been lost in this respect owing to this unfortunate drought.

"The principal crops are guinea corn and millet in the northern portion of the Province, and the same, with the addition of yams and Indian maize, in the southern portion.

"The so-called "fra fra" potato, various beans, ground-nuts, and okroe are grown in smaller quantities all over the Province.

"No attempt seems to be made by the natives of the Province generally to grow much more than just sufficient supplies for home consumption, and this accounts for their being so hardly hit when the rains fail. It is with the very greatest difficulty that market supplies have been kept up, especially towards the end of the year."

Industries.

As stated last year, apart from agriculture, native industries are confined to the production of articles of local use and wear. Serviceable cloths are woven from native cotton yarn, and pottery, baskets, mats, rope, saddlery, and leather goods, brass ornaments, and iron hoe and axe-heads are manufactured, with other small articles necessary for the wants of a primitive people.

The dyeing of native cloths and cotton goods and the smelting of iron from the ore give employment to natives in various parts of the Protectorate, and salt is produced by evaporation at Daboya. Gunpowder is manufactured in small quantities in Grunshi, but does not possess a high point of ignition.

Minerals.

Gold-bearing quartz and alluvial deposits have been found in the neighbourhood of Wa and in the Bole District, where they are worked by Ashantis, and a certain amount of prospecting was carried out in the Dependency in 1902 and succeeding years, but lack of transport facilities debarred the undertaking of mining operations on a large scale, and such mining concessions as were then acquired have lapsed.

Coal is stated to have been found along the right bank of the White Volta River below Daboya, but this has not been verified.

The reward offered throughout the Protectorate by the Chief Commissioner in 1912 to any native who discovered and brought in to the local Commissioners mineralogical specimens that proved to contain tin has not been claimed.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Four ordinances were enacted by the Governor, and rules with respect to prisons, to markets, to the boundaries of Tamale Township and Cantonments, and to cemeteries in the Protectorate were framed and approved by His Excellency.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Government Primary School opened at Tamale in March, 1909, continued to be well and regularly attended throughout the year. There was an average daily attendance of 90, as compared with 88 in 1913. The number of pupils examined at the annual examination held in November before the closing of the School for the Christmas holidays was 95, the examination being attended with results creditable alike to teachers and pupils. Five boys attended the Technical School at Accra, while six were employed at the Agricultural station and three at the British Cotton Growing Association's ginnery at Tamale.

The attendance at the Government School at Gambaga remained the same as in the previous year (14), and it was closed towards the end of the year, as no one could be spared to relieve the teacher, who went on leave.

The Father Superior of the Roman Catholic Mission (Pères Blancs), stationed at Navarro, has informed me that he has been obliged since the commencement of the war to close the school that was opened in connection with the Mission, owing to lack of funds, but that on its termination he hopes to see it re-established.

The boys attending this school were boarded, clothed, and fed. A few boys still attend a voluntary school held by the Fathers.

The Commissioners at Navarro (North-Eastern) Wa (North-Western) and Bole (Southern) Provinces have been requested by the local Chiefs to open Government schools, and predict good attendances. Mallams, who are to be found wherever Mohammedans reside, instruct the children in reading and writing, in Arabic, and in the repetition by heart of passages from the Koran.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

There are Government Hospitals at Tamale, Salaga, and Bole in the Southern Province, at Wa, Lorha, and Tumu in the North-Western Province, and at Zouaragu and Gambaga in the North-Eastern Province.

The hospitals at Navarro and Bawku in the last mentioned Province were closed during the year owing to the dearth of Medical Officers, but both buildings were kept in repair and re-roofed.

The native attendance at these hospitals increases yearly. 1,971 out-patients and 110 in-patients were treated at the Tamale Hospital and the figures for the Zouaragu Hospital were 939 and 245 respectively, for Salaga 971 and 24, and for Gambaga 697 and 1.

Government schools are established at Tamale and Gambaga and are referred to under "Education."

Officers are supplied with boxes of vegetable seeds each quarter for use in the Government gardens established at all stations.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Northern Territories Constabulary.

The Commandant reports that discipline was well maintained during the year and compared favourably with that of 1913, and the same may be said of general efficiency and shooting.

There was no change in the organisation of the Force.

A non-commissioned officer and constable sent to Kumasi to undergo a course of cold shoeing and veterinary dressing were well reported on by the Veterinary Officer.

Prisons.

The central prison at Tamale is in charge of the Provincial Medical Officer and a native Keeper of Prisons, with the following staff :—

One senior warder, one second-class warder, and an average number of sixteen temporary warders.

All prisoners sentenced to six months imprisonment and over undergo their terms of imprisonment in this prison, where a stricter discipline than is possible at outstations is maintained.

The total number of prisoners admitted to Tamale Prison during the year was two hundred, with a daily average number of 69·49 convicts. Of these, three escaped and one was re-captured.

Eight executions were carried out, and there were eight deaths. The general health of the convicts, who were employed chiefly in sanitary work, water carrying, repairing roads, streets, and culverts, and sinking wells was good.

Prisoners' rations are purchased in the market by the Keeper of Prisons and are cooked in the prison at a cost of a fraction over 2½*d.* per diem for each man. The three meals per diem thus supplied are good in quality and quantity.

There are gaols at Salaga, Bole, Wa, Lorha, Tumu, Navarro, Zouaragu, Gambaga, and Bawku, where prisoners whose sentences are less than six months' imprisonment are confined. These prisoners are employed as at Tamale.

Summary jurisdiction obtains in the Northern Territories. The Chief Commissioner presiding in Court has full powers and jurisdiction in the Protectorate as a Judge of the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony, and, as far as it is practicable, and local circumstances permit, the procedure in this Court, Civil and Criminal, is the same as that in the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony. Provincial Commissioners hear and determine all criminal offences punishable by a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds or imprisonment for twelve months; District Commissioners hear cases punishable by a fine not exceeding fifty pounds or imprisonment for six months. The civil jurisdiction of Provincial Commissioners and District Commissioners is limited to suits in which the claims do not exceed three hundred pounds and fifty pounds respectively.

Every encouragement has been given to the Chiefs to exercise their authority, to hear and determine cases relating to native property, marriage, and other civil actions, and to uphold native laws and customs, so long as they are not opposed to our ideas of justice and equity. Few appeals from decisions of the Chiefs are made to the Commissioners' Courts, and, as a rule, local authority is exercised with the greatest moderation.

The following is a comparative table of crime in this Dependency during the last four years:—

	1911	1912	1913	1914
Number of offences reported to the Police ..	800	661	664	803
Number of persons apprehended by the Police or summoned before the Magistrates ..	800	661	664	803
Number of summary convictions:—				
1. For offences against the person	94	108	113	95
2. For slave dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For offences against property other than prædial larceny	109	106	101	93
4. For offences against Health Acts ..	183	186	135	212
5. For offences against Master and Servant Acts, including Acts relating to indentured coolies	7	6	27	30
6. For other offences	255	137	125	195
Number of convictions in the Superior Court:—				
1. For offences against the person	7	1	3	24
2. For slave dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For offences against property other than prædial larceny	—	—	9	6
4. For other offences	—	6	7	14
Number of persons acquitted:—				
1. In the Inferior Courts	141	95	109	122
2. In the Superior Courts	4	7	6	11

In the Southern Province there was an increase of 61 in the number of offences dealt with in the Provincial Commissioner's Court, while four cases were committed for trial to the Chief Commissioner's Court, one being a case of murder from the Salaga District, this being the first on record from that District since British rule was established in the Protectorate.

The Provincial Commissioner North-Western Province reports :—

"An increase of crime was anticipated by many Chiefs, who complained of the Moshis coming in large parties and terrorising the people into selling foodstuffs ; it was not however realised in the way they anticipated, but a shortage of food in one District did lead to several robberies, not by Mossis but by the Grunshi inhabitants, who had previously borne a very good character and were driven by famine to commit crime.

"There were six cases of homicide or attempted homicide. On the whole it cannot be said that there is much crime in the Province of a serious nature."

The Provincial Commissioner North-Eastern Province states :—

"There were 6 murder cases from the Province during the year. Four of these were from Bawku and two from Gambaga.

"Cattle and sheep stealing seems to have been fairly prevalent, but when one considers the easy-going methods of the natives in allowing stock to stray at will, one wonders at so few cases being reported. Most of these cases were due to the visits of starving Moshis from French territory."

Eight men were convicted and executed for murder during the year under review, as against two in 1913, but three of these cases occurred in Togoland Dagomba after the commencement of the war. Apart from these the continued decrease of crime in the Protectorate is most gratifying, as is the conduct of the chiefs and headmen in their support of the authorities.

The withdrawal of the company of the Gold Coast Regiment from Zouaragu and of Constabulary from some of the outstations was in no way taken advantage of by the natives, who vied with each other in their expressions of loyalty to the Government, and although the temporary closing of the Bawku District, which gave rise to the usual rumour that the white man was about to leave the country, may account for the number of murders (four), that were perpetrated in that District, these in no way reflect on the exemplary conduct of the chiefs and people of the Bawku District as a whole.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The Provincial Medical Officer states in the Annual Report which he has submitted to the Principal Medical Officer, that the average number of Europeans resident in the Northern Territories was 22·3, but this estimate does not include the outstations of Yeji, Lorha, and Bawku, from which no returns have been received. The total number of those placed on the sick list was 31 for 216 days.

Three officials were invalided and there were no deaths, so that the general health in 1914 may be considered to have been excellent.

The average number of native officials resident in the Northern Territories was 48·75; of these 19 were placed on the sick list for 83 days; none were invalided, and there were no deaths.

Of the European non-officials resident in the Protectorate two belonged to the Wesleyan Mission and three to the British Cotton Growing Association at Tamale, but in both cases there was practically but one resident at a time.

Their health was very good. At Navarro one of the five Fathers of the Roman Catholic Mission suffered from an attack of blackwater fever, but recovered.

Native Population.

One death from yellow fever was reported at Tamale in March, and one from Bole in May, while four suspected cases which recovered were treated at the hospital at Tamale.

A disease, reported in 1913, as having broken out in a small village near Yeji, and which was said to resemble strongly *pestis bubonica* made its appearance at the fishing village of Makongo also near Yeji in May during the year. The investigating medical officer reported that he saw four cases, one of which proved fatal, while five cases, of which four ended fatally, were reported previous to this.

Leprosy, as stated in last year's Annual Report, is not on the increase and, while uncommon in the Southern and North-Western Provinces, is of more frequent occurrence in the North-Eastern Province. The natives look upon it as "a visitation of Allah," but say that it shows no signs of spreading and are generally averse to compulsory isolation.

The health of natives resident in the Southern Province was generally good throughout the year.

The Provincial Commissioner of the North-Western Province states:—

"The health of Europeans and natives has been good.

"The only serious case of illness among officials was one of dysentery in Lorha. No epidemics have occurred among the natives.

"Sanitary regulations are in force in all stations. In towns outside those stations it is not possible to enforce them, and though natives in some of them have been instructed in methods of improving their surroundings they pay little attention to them.

"On all trade roads the Moshis and other traders are greatly responsible for the insanitary state of the towns, and attempts made some years ago to provide caravanserais for them led to their using rest-houses as such, nor could the headmen of the villages in which they were established enforce the users to keep them in repair; consequently caravanserais are now only in use at stations where there are Commissioners. In these stations they are a conspicuous success."

An outbreak of anthrax, which attacked both man and cattle, occurred in the Kanjarga District of the North-Eastern Province in February and was responsible for a number of deaths in both instances.

This District was visited by the Veterinary Officer in July, who inspected the herds and gave advice to the native owners as to the preservation of health among their cattle.

Apart from this outbreak the general health of the natives may be described as good.

Water Supply.

The Provincial Medical Officer makes no comment under this head in his report for the year under review, and I cannot do better than quote the remarks made by his predecessor in his Report for the year 1913 :—

"To procure an adequate and good supply of water is a serious problem throughout the Northern Territories. In the rainy season there is more than an adequate supply, but for several months of the dry season and away from the large rivers, water becomes so scarce that in many cases it amounts to a famine, and exorbitant prices are asked for a calabash of water.

"It is all surface water. The first difficulty is to find water, and when found, then to prevent the well being filled up with earth after the very first rains. To prevent this calamity the sides of the well must be lined with stone and cement, and a stone and cement coping and apron made.

"All this requires skilled labour, which outside Tamale is almost non-existent, and the price of cement in the Northern Territories is almost prohibitive. The work done in some stations by an energetic District Commissioner and Doctor is wonderful, considering the type of unskilled labour available, and the materials at hand. It must be remembered that the Public Works Department for the whole Northern Territories is represented by one Inspector of Works, with a handful of masons and carpenters, all resident in Tamale. The outlying stations have to do the best they can, with no skilled labour, no technical knowledge, few tools, little material, and difficult transport. At any cost the most pressing necessity now is the travelling around the Northern Territories of an experienced Public Works Department official to make properly constructed wells at each station. I cannot urge this point too strongly."

The Provincial Medical Officer adds for the year under review :—

"At the end of the year we were still awaiting essential parts of the semi-Rotary pumps ordered through the Crown Agents in February, 1914.

"As stated in the report for 1913, until the material for boring artesian wells has been provided, I fear that we shall never be free from the spectre of a water famine. Even at Tamale during the dry season, the natives camp out all night round the wells and water holes to secure a calabashful of water as it slowly percolates through the sandstone, and free fights are of common occurrence, when pots are broken and valuable water spilled."

The Provincial Commissioner North-Western Province writes :—

"The water supply for Europeans is not satisfactory in any of the three stations. Probably owing to an abnormally dry season last year the wells in Wa dried up.

"One of them had been in use for over ten years and though sometimes very low had never run dry before.

"The pumps supplied are useless, and were never intended to raise water from a depth of 30 feet or more.

"In Wa and Tumu the native water supplies are bad, especially in the dry season, but some improvement was made at Tumu by the sinking of wells for natives to use ; these wells are not, however, permanent.

"In Wa at least one good supply could be made for the natives without much difficulty. Wells exist in the town but many of them dry up for three months or more.

"A new European well has been started but it will not be completed till April, when the wells are usually at their lowest level.

"The making of an adequate supply is merely a question of expenditure and some good skilled labour, both for the European and native supplies, and the expenditure would be inconsiderable compared with the benefit that would accrue."

The above remarks apply to the North-Eastern Province.

A Mansfield Patent Automatic water-finder, for locating water up to a depth of 200 feet was received towards the end of the year, but the experiments so far conducted with it at Tamale have been absolutely unsuccessful.

Meteorological Observations.

The rainfall during the year as recorded at Tamale was 33·32 inches, a decrease of 14·69 inches as compared with that of 1913.

The following table shows the monthly rainfall for the past seven years:—

	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.
	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.
January ..	nil	2·00	nil	nil	·01	nil	·05
February ..	nil	6·44	0·27	nil	·02	0·72	nil
March	0·94	2·23	1·17	7·98	1·64	0·72	1·63
April	2·88	6·12	5·77	1·68	3·75	1·57	·43
May	6·94	4·54	2·37	4·94	2·83	3·31	2·56
June	8·36	7·69	6·07	6·21	3·57	6·43	4·81
July	4·94	7·07	9·19	6·11	4·06	7·00	2·09
August ..	4·51	7·91	8·45	6·94	7·25	14·58	3·94
September ..	7·23	5·67	11·34	8·09	5·35	11·29	10·85
October ..	3·50	7·50	1·29	1·50	3·87	2·39	4·77
November ..	nil	0·32	nil	0·97	nil	nil	2·19
December ..	nil	0·09	0·29	nil	0·01	nil	nil
Total ..	39·30	51·58	49·27	44·42	32·36	48·01	33·32

VIII.—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

There are Post and Telegraph offices at Tamale, Salaga, and Yeji.

The telegraph offices at Bole, Wa, and Gambaga remained closed, as such, during the year, owing to the shortage of qualified operators.

The Provincial Commissioner, North-Western Province reports:—

"No telegraph operator or Postmaster has been appointed to Wa, the only Post Office in the Province. The telegraph line is in good repair and since August has been open for Government telegrams through the medium of the Commissioners at Wa and Bole who have been themselves the operators. But for this no telegraphic news would have been received at Wa.

"A Senior Supervisor, Posts and Telegraphs Department, came through Tumu and Wa and expressed surprise at the amount of work he found in the Post Office in Wa.

"It has not, however, ripened into further financial aid or the appointment of a Postmaster."

There is telephonic connection between Tamale and Gambaga in the North-Eastern Province.

Letters are received and despatched from all stations, and the Commissioners have stamps for sale.

Telegrams were received and despatched at Tamale during the year, as compared with 1913, as follows :—

	Received.		Despatched.	
	1913	1914	1913	1914
Official	2,359	3,055	2,201	2,853
Private	1,030	1,086	1,266	1,886

The following statistics show the business done in the Post Office at Tamale :—

	1913.	1914.
Stamps sold	£189 9 3	£190 8 11
Postal Orders Commission ..	13 10 0	9 14 1
Money Orders Commission ..	22 0 9	2 19 7
Registration of Telegraph address	—	1 1 0
Postal Orders sold	943 7 0	647 7 0
Poundage on same	13 10 0	9 14 1
Money Orders issued	217 15 1	265 4 9
Commission on same	2 0 9	2 19 9
	£1,381 12 10	£1,129 9 2

Mails despatched south 133 bags and 51 parcels mails.

Mails despatched north 208 bags and 34 parcels mails.

Mails received south 577 bags and 53 parcels mails.

Mails received north 150 bags and 40 parcels mails.

There are eight permanent postmen stationed at Tamale. Six of these are engaged in running north to Nasia and Gambaga and two to Kunkori on the Wa road.

There has been considerable increase in the business done at Salaga Post Office. Postal Orders were sold to value of £264 4*s*. 3*d*., as compared with £206 7*s*. 10*d*. last year, and stamps sold were £64 15*s*. 7*d*., as against £22 2*s*. 1*d*. in 1913.

Sixteen regular postmen were employed at Salaga up to July, when it was decided to run one mail only a week up to the Northern Territories, and the number was then reduced to eight.

This number is by no means sufficient, as occasionally as many as 12 to 15 bags arrive at Salaga at one time. It is therefore necessary to have local carriers, and of these 483 have been employed during the year.

879 bags of mails were received at Salaga Post Office during the year, as compared with 977 in 1913.

Yeji.

Postal Orders were sold at this office amounting to £210 and stamps to £57 11*s.* 11*d.*

IX.—RELIGION.

The Father Superior of the Roman Catholic Mission (Pères Blancs) established at Navarro in 1906, informs me that the Fathers have baptised and received into the Church 137 natives. Natives who wish to become Christians undergo a four years' probationary course before they are baptised. During this period they receive religious instruction, in which they are examined periodically. One hundred and fifty natives are candidates for baptism and between three and four hundred attend, more or less regularly, the classes which the Fathers hold daily, in one or other section of Navarro township.

The Wesleyan Methodist Mission was given permission to establish itself in the Northern Territories in 1912.

The General Superintendent of the Gold Coast District stated that it is not their intention to undertake any work elsewhere in the Protectorate than at Tamale for some years to come, or until the construction of a mission station has been completed. Nothing has been done in the latter direction during the year and the Government school house is lent to the resident Missionary for services on Sundays. A number of the Government school boys obtained permission from their parents to receive religious instruction from the Missionary.

The relative number of Christians, Mohammedans, and Pagans in the Northern Territories, as shown in the Census returns for 1911, were as follows:—

Christians.	Mohammedans.	Pagans.
133.	42,598.	319,075.

Mohammedanism would appear to make little, if any progress in this Dependency, and is, in the case of many of those who profess its tenets, of a debased form, and more than tainted with the prevailing paganism. The bulk of the Mohammedan population is to be found in the Southern Province.

Larabanga, in the Bole District, is a stronghold of Mohammedans, and it is the proud boast of the Chief and Imam that not a single pagan resides in the town. The latter carefully guards an ancient copy of the Koran, bound in several volumes, which is stated to have been the property of the Mohammedan founder of Larabanga, who came from Mecca, having left his Koran behind. After many days of prayer and fasting, the Koran was miraculously restored to him at Larabanga, and has been reverenced by succeeding Imams ever since.

The chief centres of Mohammedamism are, in the Southern Province, Tamale and its surrounding villages, Salaga, Bole, and Larabanga; in the North-Eastern Province Gambaga, Wale-Wale, and Bawku; in the North-Western Province Wa, Gurupisi, Uasa, and Wahabu.

A Mohammedan priest resident at Navarro, in the North-Eastern Province, is reported to have made no headway at all, and has so far not succeeded in making a single convert.

Although the pagan portion of the population show no great desire, as a whole, to abandon their form of belief, they exhibit no sort of resentment towards the members of other denominations.

The belief of the heathen portion of the native community is a primordial animism. Each town or village has its own "fetish" which is usually to be found at the entrance to the Chief's or priest's compound, and takes various forms, such as a conical pile of earth, or a three-pronged stick, supporting a pot in which grows a shrub, grass, or an aquatic plant.

These represent the "fetish" itself, which is recognised in many forms, as of lightning, a lion, hawk, crocodile, snake, tortoise, or other animal, bird, or reptile.

Such "fetishes" guard and watch over the general welfare of the villages and its inhabitants and communicate with the latter through their priests. When offended these "fetishes" are propitiated by the sacrifice of sheep or goats, and of black cats or dogs.

Every family has its own "fetish," usually a conical heap of clay with a small pot sunk in its apex. It is to be seen outside every compound, and is consulted on all matters relating to the welfare of the family. Sacrifices are made to it by killing fowls over it, and allowing their blood to run into the pot and over its support, the birds' feathers then being stuck on before the blood congeals.

The "lightning fetish" is the most dreaded, and is universally invoked to revenge theft. No native would dream of attempting to arrest a conflagration caused by lightning. The veneration of ancestors also forms part of the native religious belief, and their shades are consulted through the family fetish.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Political.

The news that war had been declared between England and Germany was received at Tamale on the 5th August.

Yendi, the capital of Togoland Dagomba and formerly that of the whole of Dagomba, was occupied without opposition by a small detachment of the Northern Territories Constabulary under their Commandant, Major Marlow, on the 14th August, and I entered Yendi on the 22nd and received the submission of all the Togoland Dagomba Chiefs amid scenes of great enthusiasm. Since that date a Commissioner and a detachment of the Northern Territories Constabulary have been stationed there.

Sansanne-Mangu was occupied without opposition by our Allies, the French, on the 15th August, as were Sekode and Bassari by detachments from Dahomey.

Togoland surrendered unconditionally to the Allies on the 26th August.

Our relations with the French have been of the most cordial description, and visits were exchanged between the French residents at Leo and Gawa and our Commissioners at Tumu and Lorha.

Captain Mackesy, R.E., of the Gold Coast Survey, accompanied by Captain Wheeler, District Commissioner, motor-cycled to Wagadugu and met with a hearty reception from the French Administrator and his colleagues.

Administration.

The Chief Commissioner administered the Protectorate throughout the year. I have nothing to add to what I wrote in last year's Report, which was as follows:—

"The year under review has been eminently satisfactory from an administrative and from every other point of view, and I believe that the natives are realizing fully the benefits they now enjoy under the existing administration.

"Their one fear appears to be that of direct taxation, in lieu of which they willingly provide all the labour that is required of them for upkeep of roads, rest houses, etc. The Chiefs enter into friendly competition with each other as to which of them has the best built European rest-houses in his towns and villages, so much so that more than one Chief has asked for permission to build such in villages remote from the main roads."

Native Affairs.

The Commissioner of the Southern Province reports as follows:—

"The year has been a quiet one.

"The outbreak of the European war in August and the expedition against Togoland caused very little stir and no disturbance. The natives seemed to have no anxiety at all and had full confidence in our being able to protect them.

"The Chiefs gave willingly all the assistance asked of them in carriers, etc.

"On the outbreak of war with Turkey meetings were held of all the Mohammedan communities and the causes leading up to the war explained. All expressed their confidence in our administration.

"The people are law abiding and a great majority of the offenders brought before the court are itinerant natives or ex-prisoners. In the Salaga District the death of Darimanu, Chief of Tuluwe, is much to be regretted. He was one of the strongest and most reliable Chiefs in the District.

"The people contributed generously to the Gold Coast Imperial War Fund."

The Commissioner of the North-Western Province writes:—

"The Chief Commissioner arrived in the Province on the 14th June and left it, after a tour of inspection, partly off the beaten tracks of previous inspections, on the 9th July. Enthusiastic crowds welcomed him and sang choruses, generally somewhat like nursery rhymes.

"Of first importance was the great loyalty and generosity shown by the Chiefs and people in their ready response to an appeal from their brother Chiefs in the Colony to subscribe to the Gold Coast Imperial War Fund.

"Compared to the Chiefs in the Colony and Ashanti the Chiefs in this Province are extremely poor men, and, though their loyalty was undoubted by those who knew them, their generous donations came as a surprise to all. They stand as marks of their appreciation of English methods of administration and have shown that their expressions of loyalty, made when they were informed of the outbreak of war, were no mere lip service.

"Further admiration for their generosity must be felt when it is remembered that many of the Chiefs could count the number of white men they have seen on their fingers, that they know nothing of the causes that led to the outbreak of war, and that it is not a decade since this country was occupied by us, and only eight years since Civil administration was introduced.

"Such actions increase administrative responsibilities by adding obligations to them.

"During the year there have been no quarrels among the Chiefs, and their relations to the Government and between themselves remain very satisfactory.

"The year has not passed without one quarrel, in which arrows were used, in the Dagarti country, namely, at Dorkho, which has been fully reported on.

"During the Chief Commissioner's tour of inspection the Grunshi Chiefs at Tumu agreed to accept the Paramountcy of the King of Wa, who now becomes the Paramount Chief over all others in the Province.

"Although he is getting somewhat infirm he is a most loyal adherent to the Administration and is ready and able to assert his authority when necessary. In this he is backed up by the somewhat strong and influential Mohammedan part of the community who, though they have their own Chief, recognise the King of Wa as Paramount in spite of his being a Pagan."

The Commissioner North-Eastern Province states:—

"Relations between Chiefs and Government have been quite satisfactory. No advantage seems to have been taken in any way of the withdrawal of the administrative power from Bawku, or the Military company from Zouaragu at the outbreak of war. At the latter place, some of the young men are said to have got a little bit uppish, but it was nothing serious, and was in no way connected with the Chiefs and elders.

"All circumstances considered, I think it may be said that relations between Chiefs and Government have improved even since 1913."

I quote the following from the Bawku report :—

"The resources of the Chiefs were placed at the disposal of the Government, and there is no doubt that there was some disappointment that there was no occasion for them to give more material aid to the British arms.

"The Chief of Bawku received the thanks of the Officer Commanding a French column in north Togoland for the prompt and willing manner in which he assisted the progress of the column by supplying food and labour."

I append a note by Captain H. C. Wheeler, who administered this Province during the greater part of the year :—

"Marked progress has been shown in the position of the Paramount Chiefs. Though of recent revival this system may be said to be firmly established.

"The sums subscribed by the Chiefs and people to the Gold Coast Imperial War Fund reached a total of £1,826 1*s.* 3*d.* and the spontaneity with which the contributions were brought in evidenced a wish on the part of natives of all classes to identify themselves with the movement and thus to demonstrate their loyalty to the Government.

"On the outbreak of war with Turkey meetings were held everywhere and the situation carefully explained to the assemblies. Our French neighbours have been much troubled since then by wandering Mallams who preached a 'Jihad' and announced the early arrival of a Mahdi who would drive the white men from the country. I believe that in some cases they were joined by the local natives, but during the year under review not a single fanatical Mohammedan ventured to preach sedition in this Protectorate."

Roads.

The Provincial Commissioners report on the roads of their respective Provinces as follows :—

Southern Province.

"*Tamale.*—"Tamale-Karaga road work has been devoted to this road and 30 miles have now been constructed and ten miles cleared.

"Tamale—Nasia road. Four miles were re-formed and the road has been cleaned.

"Tamale–Port—Daboya road. 33 miles of this road were cleared of weed and stumps. Seven miles have been constructed from Port Tamale towards Kito.

"Other roads have been cleared of grass, etc.

"*Salaga.*—The road between Salaga and Dakar Ferry was completed in September.

"Owing to the scarcity of labour and the great demand for men for transport purposes it was found impossible to do anything to the Salaga-Tamale road.

"The road between Makongo and Yeji under the supervision of Mr. Whittall was completed in October.

"Some bridging work has been carried on near Maliki Zongo.

"*Yeji.*—Fifteen miles of ditched road 20 feet wide has been constructed during the year between Yeji and Prang at an average cost of about £12 per mile. This road will be suitable for light motor traffic.

"A new cutting four and a half miles long has also been made and partly stumped from the Pru River to the Prang-Attabubu tribal boundary.

"*Bole.*—All roads in the District have been cleared and the bridges between Bole and Banda have been repaired."

North-Western Province.

"A new road from Wa to Tumu which is some nine miles shorter than the old one, has been made.

"This road was ditched, but the ditches are not sufficiently large to be at all permanent and it is questionable if the cutting of small ditches which make a very pretty road when freshly cut, but get filled up with the first heavy rains, is worth the labour expended on making them.

"In the Lorha District the Chiefs of Giripa and Tugo made good roads on their own initiative to Babile. This is very encouraging.

"In the Tumu District a new road from Du to Santijan was cut."

North-Eastern Province.

"Roads throughout the Province have been well maintained. The widening to 20 feet of the direct Navarro-Tamale road was commenced from the Volta northwards at beginning of December, and by the end of the year had already made considerable progress.

"A considerable amount of work was also put in on the Navarro-Zouaragu road, which was re-made, raised, and bridged for about two miles out of Navarro by Captain Wheeler.

Rest-Houses.

"Excellent rest-houses to the number of 237 have been built and maintained by the Chiefs of all the more important villages in the Protectorate.

"They are generally of the round-house type, with conical thatched roof, and stand in large compounds often surrounded by thick 'swish' walls."

Ferries.

The Commissioner of the Southern Province reports as follows under this head:—

"The tolls for the year at Yeji ferry amounted to £1,659 as against £1,958 2*s.* 3*d.* for 1913—a decrease in the takings of £298 2*s.* 3*d.*

"This falling off occurred during the last quarter of the year, and is to be attributed to the shortage of water and food on the road down from the north to the decreased markets at Kumasi due to the war, and to the fact that since the subjugation of Togoland and the doing away of tolls in that Colony trade that formerly reached the wealthy markets of the Eastern Province of the Colony *via* Yeji, Attabubu, and Mampong, now goes direct and by better roads through Togoland *via* Senchi to Kpong, Akuse, Somanya, etc.

"The two steel pontoons at the ferry continue to do good service. They are light, easy to manage, and have a big carrying capacity.

"The ferry at the Pru River was not used as the river was fordable throughout the year.

"There are two sections of steel pontoons on the Black Volta north of Kintampo; also half a section on the Yamalga river and Nabogo river.

"The ferry at Dakar river mouth has been working successfully this year and has been taken over by the Preventive Service.

"The number of persons crossing this ferry during the year was 5,338, also 15,207 animals and 1,284 loads."

The Commissioner of the North-Western Province states:—

"There are two large ferries in Lorha District at Bayi and Dapola, which are used by the natives to attend markets on the French side of the river.

"Other ferries in this Province are worked by the local Chiefs."

In the North-Eastern Province 12 canoes have been built and put upon the various ferries that had not been hitherto supplied. The use of these will only be found necessary during a short period of the year, but they supply a much felt want.

Transport.

The unsatisfactory transport service to the Northern Territories was replaced in June, 1913, by a new system, whereby stores were despatched by motor lorries to Ejura from Kumasi, thence to Yeji by carriers transport and by the Volta River in canoe to Tamale-Port (Yapei).

The Transport Officer is satisfied with the River Transport Service but not so the officers stationed in this Protectorate, who have suffered considerably from losses of their stores due to breakages, to damage caused by water permeating the boxes and their contents, and to looting by carriers. Nor can it be said that the delivery of stores from Kumasi to Tamale by the River Service has been expedited in any way.

The Commissioner of the Southern Province reports:—

"*Tamale.*—Up to the end of the first quarter of the year a permanent gang of 48 carriers and two headmen were employed in going to Yapei for loads. This has now been discontinued and gangs are employed who do two journeys to Yapei and then they go back to their homes. 2,356 loads have been shifted from Yapei to Tamale and, in addition to this, 1,742 boys were employed in other transport work, such as conveying officials and their loads, etc.

"The pay of these carriers is 6*d.* a day whilst carrying loads, and 3*d.* a day when without loads.

"*Salaga.*—The demand for carriers is not so large in this District since the River Transport was started. Still, considering the population of the District it is considerable. 906 boys were supplied for specie escorts, Public Works Department loads, etc., and the Chiefs complain that their boys are leaving for Kumasi on account of these demands for carriers.

"The Kumasi locals are as unsatisfactory as ever, as some loads of cement which left Kumasi on 25th June, 1914, had not reached Salaga by the end of the year. These carriers are supplied to the Transport Department by a woman named Mariama in Kumasi.

"*Yeji.*—6,131 loads were received at Yeji from all sources, of which 3,900 were conveyed by permanent carriers and 2,231 by loads. 2,806 loads were transported to Yapei by river at an average cost, including the purchase of canoes, of about 3*s.* 8*d.* a load.

"82 canoes were despatched to Yapei, the average time taken there and back being 13 days.

"*Bole.*—The calls for carriers has been fairly heavy, but the work has been distributed as evenly as possible.

"The supply of local transport in the North-Western and North-Eastern Provinces becomes more and more difficult to obtain, and there is a steadily growing tendency among the natives, especially those who

have visited Kumasi and who know that carriers in the Colony and Ashanti are paid at the rate of 1s. 3d. per diem, to look askance at the pay offered to them in this Protectorate—6d. per diem.

"This, in conjunction with the increased price of foodstuffs, is creating a situation of some difficulty."

Northern Territories Topographical Survey.

The Topographical Survey of this Protectorate was carried on rapidly up to the date of the declaration of war, when the Department was closed down. Captain P. J. Mackesy, R.E., Deputy Director of Surveys, moved his Headquarters from Tamale to Navarro in the North-Eastern Province and, I believe, had nearly completed the Survey of that Province when the war put a stop to all further work.

The Officers were then employed as Intelligence officers to the mobile columns, and the Non-Commissioned Officers were also attached to these.

Entomological Research Commission.

Dr. J. J. Simpson, of the West African Entomological Research Committee (Colonial Office), continued his work in the Northern Territories, and was for some months in the Bole District and at Tamale Port. He was unfortunately invalided in September.

Preventive Service.

At the commencement of the year the Customs Preventive Service had eight stations along the Eastern Frontier of the Northern Territories at which goods are imported and duties collected. They are situated at Kunkwa, Dogankede, Krupe, Kpabia, Sung, Nyanson, Gambaga, and Bawku.

The two last named stations were closed down at the commencement of the war, but towards the close of the year a clerk was placed at Bawku.

The District Supervisor estimates the value of imports during the year at £48,911 as compared with £422,004 in 1913.

The exports of kola and salt over the frontier are referred to under Head II.—"Trade, Agriculture, and Industries."

8,392 loads of cloth passed through Salaga from the Colony and Ashanti, as compared with 5,737 in 1913.

Immigration and Emigration.

The Commissioner of the North-Western Province reports as follows:

"As far as immigration is concerned there appear to be Fulanis settling in the country. These people look after the herds of cattle when the Chiefs allow them to. Beyond these few families there cannot be said to be any immigration.

"There is a migratory period every year towards Kumasi commencing about the end of October. A considerable number of boys then go down to find work, but most of these find their way back to their country in course of time, many returning about April or May.

"Natives in increasing numbers also proceed to Ashanti from the North-Eastern Province, but usually return in time to make their farms.

"I met many such gangs on their way to Kumasi when on tour. These gangs were usually conducted by a native who had been to Kumasi before, and their members each carried with them a scanty supply of food and very little else."

Labour.

Unskilled labour at the rate of 6*d.* per diem is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain; which cannot be wondered at when so many of our natives have realized that by going to Kumasi they can readily obtain from 1*s.* to 2*s.* per diem for their services. All skilled labour is obtained from the Colony or Ashanti at daily rates of from 1*s.* 9*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*

There are no openings at present for white labour.

Climate.

The climate of the Northern Territories is unhealthy, and is particularly trying during the months of January, February, March, and April, when the intense heat has an enervating effect alike on Europeans and natives.

Miscellaneous.

His Excellency the Governor, Sir Hugh Clifford, accompanied by H. H. the Duke of Mecklenburg, (then Governor of Togoland), the Chief Commissioner of Ashanti, and their respective staffs, arrived at Yeji on the 27th January, where I received them, and accompanied them by canoe on the 29th to Kete Kratchi, where His Excellency and party were the guests of the Governor of Togoland on the night of the 30th January and until the evening of the next day, when we returned to British Kratchi.

The Protectorate suffered a loss in the retirement during the year of Major R. A. Irvine, C.M.G., and Captain E. O. Warden The former officer had seen over 22 years' service in the Colony, Ashanti, and the Northern Territories.

A record of tribal marks and marks of adornment in use among the natives of the Northern Territories has been prepared, and was carefully checked during the year.

C. H. ARMITAGE,

Chief Commissioner, Northern Territories.

SKETCH MAP OF THE GOLD COAST.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
827	British Honduras	1913
828	Colonial Survey Committee	1913–1914
829	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"
830	Swaziland	"
831	Uganda	"
832	Nyasaland	"
833	British Guiana	"
834	Imperial Bureau of Entomology	1914
835	St. Vincent	1913–1914
836	St. Lucia	"
837	Somaliland	"
838	Straits Settlements	1913
839	Cayman Islands	1913–1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	"
841	Leeward Islands	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Weihaiwei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914–1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914–1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914–1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914–1915
858	Basutoland	1914
859	Gold Coast	"
860	Jamaica	1914–1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

LONDON:
PRINTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF HIS MAJESTY'S
STATIONERY OFFICE
By BARCLAY AND FRY, LTD., SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

1915.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 917.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1915.

(For Report for 1914 see No. 863.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
March, 1917.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

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CONTENTS.

		PAGE
I.	Introduction	3
II.	Trade, Agriculture, and Industries	4
III.	Legislation	8
IV.	Education	9
V.	Government Institutions	10
VI.	Judicial Statistics	10
VII.	Vital Statistics	13
VIII.	Posts and Telegraphs	15
IX.	Religion..	17
X.	General Observations	19

NORTHERN TERRITORIES.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR 1915.

GOVERNMENT PRESS, ACCRA.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES

FOR 1915.

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1. Conditions, similar to those that have obtained in this Protectorate since the abolition of the "Caravan Tolls" on the 1st September, 1908, from which date the Revenue of the Protectorate became an almost negligible quantity, have undergone no appreciable change during the year under review.

2. The main Roads traversing the Protectorate continue to be made use of by the many Caravans that travel, free of charge, Southward to Ashanti and Northward to French Territory.

3. Customs Receipts for goods imported into the Protectorate, and the profits made by the Gold Coast Government Railway from the transport of live stock and goods that arrive at Coomassie from, or through, the Northern Territories, are credited to the general Revenue of the Colony, as is the *ad valorem* duty of the purchases made by native traders, who return from Coomassie with goods representing the proceeds of their sales.

4. The increasing amount of native labour supplied from this Protectorate, to Ashanti, and, in a lesser degree, to the Colony, without which the Cocoa and other Industries would undoubtedly suffer, should no more be overlooked than the fact that this exodus of the young male population, which has called forth protests from the local Chiefs, who complain that they are left without sufficient labour to farm the land, will contribute in the future to the advancement of the inhabitants of the Protectorate through the dissemination, by their Countrymen, who, in the great majority of cases, return to their homes, of a broader and more enlightened outlook than could be acquired by a life-long residence within the restricted limits of a small District.

5. The Nickel Coinage of three denominations—one penny, one half-penny and one tenth of a penny—introduced into the Protectorate in June 1913, remains very popular among the natives, but the limited supplies of these coins prevent the complete disappearance of the Cowrie from the native Markets. Tenths are the coins most in demand and a very large supply of these will be needed to satisfy native requirements.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

6. It is impossible, under present conditions, to give more than an approximate estimate of the volume of trade entering and leaving the Country. Trade Statistics are kept at Stations situated on the main trade routes, but as the registration of live stock and trade goods is voluntary, and as many Caravans —especially those composed of live stock—pass through the Stations during the night, the figures given can be looked on only as an indication of a general increase or decrease in trade, as the case may be. The Trade Routes from the North through Daboya to Kintampo, and others of minor importance, do not pass through any Stations where Statistics can be collected, nor are such compiled at Kintampo in Ashanti.

7. Imports consist generally of Cotton and Woollen goods, Silk Handkerchiefs and lengths, Hardware, Haberdashery, Beads, Brass Rods, Tobacco, Tinned Provisions, and Kola Nuts from Ashanti.

8. The Commissioner of the North-Eastern Province reports that trade throughout the Province has shown a substantial increase, except in the Zouaragu District, where, however, numerous Caravans of live-stock pass Southward along the road running over the Tong Hills.

9. No Trade Statistics were kept at Gambaga from the commencement of the year up to the end of September, nor at Zouaragu from June to December but in spite of this the available figures for the Province show an increase of some 3,000 in Cattle, Sheep and Donkeys over those of the previous year.

10. The Kola and Cloth trades passing North from Ashanti show considerable increases, but there was a falling off in number of Moshi Cloths and Blankets imported, due, no doubt, to the unsettled conditions that prevailed in French Moshi Country.

11. The Trade Report of the Commissioner of the North-Western Province is not so encouraging and shows a decrease of nearly 9,000 Cattle passing through the Province. This, however, can be accounted for by the general unrest among the natives of the "Haut Senegal et Niger," and by the restrictions placed by the French Authorities on the movements of Cattle Caravans owing to the outbreak of Rinderpest in Northern Nigeria and the adjoining French Territory. The falling off in the number of Cattle Caravans passing through the Province probably accounts for their increase in the North-Eastern Province. There was a considerable increase of trade in the local products:—Shea Butter, extracted from thefruit of *Butyrospermum Parkii:* "Dawa Dawa," a food prepared from the seeds and flour-like substance contained in the pods of the Locust Bean, (*Parkia filicoidea*), and Ground Nuts, (*Arachis Hypogoea*).

12. There was a considerable decrease in the number of Cattle, Sheep and Donkeys passing through the Southern Province, which is accounted for by the fact that the natives are making increasing use of the Togoland route. On the other hand trade in Kola Nuts, Shea Butter, Dawa Dawa and Salt showed a marked increase over that of 1914.

13. It is gratifying to record that during the year several herds of the "Dagomba" type of Cattle, bred in the Country and driven to Coomassie by natives of the Protectorate, fetched good prices, which has encouraged their owners to repeat the experiment.

14. Salt, to the amount of 21,027½ bags, was landed at Yeji, of which 19,802½ were carried by canoe to Tamale Port, (Yapei), for sale and distribution throughout the Protectorate and adjoining Territories. Three hundred and forty-four bags of Salt were imported into the Protectorate across the Volta River at the Dakar Ferry. On their return journey from Tamale Port the Salt Traders canoes carry Fowls, Shea-butter, Native Cloth and a considerable number of horns of the Bush Cow and of various species of Antelope shot by the natives, which, it is said, command a ready sale on the Coast.

15. Fish, caught in the Volta River and sun-dried, are exported to Ashanti and the Coast, but this industry is in the hands of the Bater tribe who come up the river and encamp on its banks during the fishing season.

16. To sum up, trade in general increased in the Protectorate during the year under review, in spite of the unfavourable conditions mentioned above.

AGRICULTURE.

17. In pleasant contrast to that of the two previous years, the rainfall in 1915 was such as to insure a good harvest. A shortage of seed for planting in the farms was reported from some Districts owing to the partial failure of the crops last year and to the improvidence of the natives, who sold large quantities of their reserve supplies of Corn and Millet to Moshis from French Territory, who, driven by famine, visited the Northern Districts of the Protectorate and offered extravagant prices for food of any description.

18. Throughout the North-Eastern Province good crops of Guinea Corn, Millet, Maize, Ground Nuts, Beans, Rice and "Tumuku" (Plectranthus Sp. locally known as the "Fra-Fra Potato"), were raised, and, in the Gambaga District, Yams and Sweet Potatoes were grown with equal success. Cotton, grown from seed distributed by the British Cotton Growing Association, was not particularly good in either quality or quantity.

19. The Commissioner of the North-Western Province has equally good reports to make of the crops harvested in that Province. The Yam and Bean crops were particularly successful; the latter being so heavy that the natives actually grumbled at it, and complained of the excessive amount of labour required to harvest it. The first sowing of Millet in the Eastern Districts of the Province suffered considerable damage from a plague of Grass hoppers, but excellent crops were reaped from a second sowing. Cotton Seed was distributed among the natives with more encouraging results than in the North-Eastern Province.

20. The crops of Guinea Corn, Millet, Maize, Yams, Ground Nuts and Beans harvested in the Southern Province were excellent in quality and quantity, but the Tobacco crops, grown in the Bole District, suffered from too much rain.

21. The breeding of a straight-backed species of cattle commonly known as "Dagomba," and somewhat resembling small Jersey, is carried on throughout the Protectorate, but under the most primitive conditions, and no attempt is made to improve the breed by selection. Periodical outbreaks of Anthrax and Pleuro-Pneumonia decimate the herds, as no steps are taken to isolate the infected beasts. The beef of the "Dagomba" cattle is superior to that of the humped "Moshi" variety, but no venture has been undertaken on a large scale to compete with the French Moshi Cattle Traders in the Coomassie Market, although such Dagomba Cattle as have been sold there realized excellent prices. Every effort is being made to persuade the natives to take their cattle to Coomassie, but until an European Veterinary Officer in permanent residence in the country has gained the confidence of the natives and has inculcated on them practical methods of improving the breed and of warding off infectious disease, little can be done. An occasional tour through the country by a Veterinary Officer—European or Native—is of little or no use and has no beneficial results, as the native is extremely suspicious of these infrequent visits, which he associates with some future form of taxation, with the result that he will, if possible, hide his cattle from the Inspecting Officer. Oxen are not made use of for ploughing, the hoe being the only implement employed in tilling the land.

22. Wire-haired Sheep and Goats are bred everywhere, and large flocks of Guinea-Fowl, scarcely distinguishable from their wild relatives, run free through most villages. Fowls are also reared and carried south in considerable quantities for sale.

Agricultural Station, Tamale.

23. An area of 98 acres was under cultivation during the year. The Senior Curator reports that the 1914–15 season was the most favourable for Cotton growing that has occurred since the Station was opened, and that the growth of the plants was 30 per cent. better than in previous years. The yield per acre of "Black Rattler" Cotton was 241 lbs. as compared with 92 lbs.; 143 lbs.; 46 lbs.; and 77 lbs. for the four preceding Seasons. The Cotton Crop of all varieties totalled 3,700 lbs. to which "Black Rattler" contributed 2,877¾ lbs.

24. Other crops consisted of Yams, Maize, Guinea Corn, Rice, the 'Fra Fra," and Sweet Potatoes, Cassava, Ground Nuts, Pigeon Peas and several varieties of Beans. Experiments were also made in "Three, and Four, Course" rotation of crops.

25. The Timber Tree section did not make much progress during the year, as a large number of the plants grown from seed continue to die off during the dry season. The Nursery was kept well stocked with plants.

Stock Farm.

26. The herd of cattle increased from 47 at the commencement of the year to 55 at its close. There was no disease of a serious nature and the general health of the herd was good. Three Bullocks were broken to the yoke.

British Cotton Growing Association.*

27. The Manager reports that the following purchases of Seed Cotton were made:—

From the North-Eastern Province	.. ..	1,156 lbs.
,, ,, North-Western Province	.. ..	3,538 ,,
,, ,, Southern Province	.. .. ..	22,088 ,,
,, ,, Agricultural Station, Tamale,	..	1,100 ,, of lint

Cotton. This produced an output of 36 bales of approximately 200 lbs. each.

Cotton Seed was distributed among the natives as follows:—

In the North-Eastern Province	.. .. ..	2,880 lbs.
,, North-Western Province	.. .. ..	5,892 ,,
,, Southern Province	.. .. ..	14,435 ,,

* Note by Secretariat:—The operations of the Association have since been closed down it having been conclusively demonstrated that cotton growing in the Northern Territories can never become a remunerative industry for export purposes.

*28. The Bole District of the Southern Province was opened up to Cotton cultivation during the Season and 720 lbs. of Cotton Seed, sufficient to plant 100 acres, was distributed and planted. The Manager, Mr. Adams, is the only European on the Establishment and was able to travel for 45 days only during the year. One Native Overseer travelled in the North-Eastern Province from January until October: One in the North-Western Province from January to September: One in the Bole District from August to November, while two made repeated tours in the Tamale District.

29. Apart from Agriculture, native Industries are confined to the production of articles of local use and wear. Serviceable cloths are woven from native Cotton Yarn, and Pottery, Baskets, Mats, Rope, Saddlery and Leather goods, Brass Ornaments, and Iron Hoes and Axe-heads are manufactured, with other small articles necessary for the wants of a primitive people.

30. The dyeing of native cloths and Cotton goods and the smelting of Iron from the ore give employment to natives in various parts of the Protectorate, and Salt is produced by evaporation at Daboya. Gunpowder is manufactured in small quantities in Grunshi, but does not possess a high point of ignition.

Minerals.

31. Gold bearing quartz and alluvial deposits have been found in the neighbourhood of Wa and in the Bole District, where they are worked by Ashantis, and a certain amount of prospecting was carried out in the Dependency in 1902 and succeeding years, but lack of transport facilities debarred the undertaking of mining operations on a large scale, and such Mining Concessions as were then acquired have lapsed.

32. Coal is stated to have been found along the right bank of the White Volta River below Daboya, but this has not been verified.

33. The Reward offered throughout the Protectorate by the Chief Commissioner in 1912 to any native who discovered and brought in to the local Commissioners Mineralogical specimens that proved to contain Tin has not been claimed.

III.—LEGISLATION.

34. Seven Ordinances applicable to the Northern Territories were enacted by the Governor, and Rules with respect to the Regulation of Wa Township were framed, and approved by His Excellency.

* See note on previous page.

IV.—EDUCATION.

35. The Government Primary School, opened at Tamale in March, 1909, continued to be well and regularly attended throughout the year. The average daily attendance was 80, as compared with 90 in 1914. The decrease in attendance is accounted for by the return to the Coast with their parents of nine of the pupils who attended the School in 1914. Two boys who passed Standard VII were employed at the Agricultural Station, and two were given instruction at the Tamale Post Office. Five boys attended the Technical School at Accra, three of whom are well reported on by the Principal. The other two, who received unfavourable reports, have returned to Tamale.

36. The Annual Examination was held in November, when 76 pupils attended. The results were most satisfactory, and, in expressing surprise at the progress made by two of the lads who had passed Standard VII, and whose Examination Papers had been submitted to him, the Director of Education considered that it reflected great credit on the Teachers.

37. The attendance at the Government School at Gambaga was fifteen. It is only with the greatest difficulty that parents in the North-Eastern Province can be persuaded to send their children to School, while the boys themselves show none of the zeal and wishfulness to learn exhibited by the lads at the Tamale School.

38. The Father Superior of the Roman Catholic Mission, (Péres Blancs), established at Navarro was forced to close the School for resident pupils, that had been opened in connection with the Mission, owing to lack of funds. A few boys still attend a voluntary School held by the Fathers, where they receive the most elementary instruction but the Fathers are faced with difficulties, similar to those experienced at Gambaga, for the natives of the Navarro District exhibit a complete and baffling apathy with regard to the education of their children.

39. The Commissioners at Wa, (North-Western), and Bole, (Southern), Provinces have been requested by the local Chiefs to open Government Schools, and predict good attendances. Malams, who are to be found wherever Mohammedans reside, instruct the children in reading and writing, in Arabic and in the repetition by heart of passages from the Koran.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

40. There are Government Hospitals at Tamale, Salaga, Yeji and Bole in the Southern Province, at Wa, Lorha, and Tumu in the North-Western Province, and at Navarro, Zouaragu, Gambaga and Bawku in the North-Eastern Province.

41. The attendance of Out-patients at these Hospitals increases yearly but the natives object to the restrictions placed on them as In-patients, and only those suffering from the worst complaints can be persuaded to remain in Hospital for any length of time. 2,226 Out-patients and 115 In-patients were treated at the Tamale Hospital during the year: 972 and 14 at Salaga: 473 and 22 at Bole: 217 and 8 at Lorha: 589 and 22 at Gambaga and 349 and Nil at Navarro, respectively.

42. There were no Medical Officers in charge of the Hospitals at Yeji, Wa, Bawku and Zouaragu during the year.

43. The Government Schools established at Tamale and Gambaga are referred to under "EDUCATION."

44. Officers are supplied with boxes of seeds each quarter for use in the Government Gardens established at all Stations.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Northern Territories Constabulary.

45. This fine force maintained its high standard of discipline, general efficiency and shooting throughout the year. There was no increase of the establishment, or change in the organization, of the force.

Prisons.

46. The Central Prison at Tamale is in charge of the Provincial Medical Officer and a Native Keeper of Prisons with the following staff:—One senior Warder, one second-class Warder, and an average number of sixteen temporary Warders.

47. All prisoners sentenced to six months' imprisonment and over undergo their terms of imprisonment in this Prison, where a stricter discipline than is possible at Outstations is maintained.

48. The total number of prisoners admitted during the year was eighty-one, with a daily average number of 71·89 convicts. Of these, five escaped while at work outside the Prison, and two were re-captured.

49. Seven Executions for Murder were carried out. Three of the Murders were committed in the Yendi District and two in the Bawku, one in the Lorha, and one in the Tumu, Districts. There were twelve deaths in the Prison. The general health of the convicts, who were employed chiefly in Sanitary work, water carrying, repairing Roads, Streets and Culverts, and sinking Wells was good.

50. Prisoners rations are purchased in the market by the Keeper of Prisons, but a Prison Farm, started early in the year, supplied a large quantity of foodstuffs which were grown by the Prisoners and bought for use in the Prison, where the meals are prepared. Three meals per diem, good in quality and quantity, were provided for prisoners at a cost of a fraction under $2\frac{1}{4}$d for each man.

51. There are Gaols at Yeji, Salaga, Bole, Wa, Lorha, Tumu, Navarro, Zouaragu, Gambaga and Bawku, where prisoners, whose sentences are less than six months imprisonment, are confined. These prisoners are employed as at Tamale.

52. Summary jurisdiction obtains in the Northern Territories. The Chief Commissioner presiding in Court has full powers and jurisdiction in the Protectorate as a Judge of the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony, and, as far as it is practicable and local circumstances permit, the procedure in this Court, Civil and Criminal, is the same as that in the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony. Provincial Commissioners hear and determine all Criminal offences, punishable by a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds or imprisonment for twelve months; District Commissioners by a fine not exceeding fifty pounds or imprisonment for six months.

The Civil jurisdiction of Provincial Commissioners and District Commissioners is limited to suits in which the claims do not exceed three hundred pounds and fifty pounds respectively.

53. Every encouragement has been given to the Chiefs to exercise their authority, to hear and determine cases relating to native property, marriage, and other Civil actions and to uphold native laws and customs, so long as they are not opposed to our ideas of justice and equity. Few appeals from decisions of the Chiefs are made to the Commissioners Courts, and, as a rule, local authority is exercised with the greatest moderation.

54. The following is a comparative Table of Crime in the Protectorate during the last four years :—

	1912	1913	1914	1915
The Number of Offences reported to the Police	661	664	803	1,167
The Number of Persons apprehended by the Police or Summoned before the Magistrates	661	664	803	1,167
The Number of Summary Convictions :—				
1. For Offences against the Person ..	108	113	95	62
2. For Slave Dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For Offences against Property other than Praedial Larceny	106	101	93	101
4. For Offences against Health Acts ..	186	135	212	531
5. For Offences against Master and Servant Acts, including Acts relating to Indentured Coolies	6	27	30	32
6. For Other Offences	137	125	195	307
The Number of Convictions in the Superior Court :—				
1. For Offences against the Person ..	1	3	24	7
2. For Slave Dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For Offences against Property other than Praedial Larceny	—	9	6	6
4. For Other Offences	6	7	14	5
The Number of Persons acquitted :—				
1. In the Inferior Courts	95	109	122	103
2. In the Superior Court	7	6	11	5

55. There was a decrease in the more serious forms of crime in the North-Eastern Province, but the theft of Live-stock was prevalent. Many such cases, however, proved, on investigation, to be forcible attempts by creditors to collect long-standing debts.

56. A similar absence of serious crime is reported from the North-Western and Southern Provinces. The large increase in the number of Persons apprehended by the Police or summoned before the Magistrates during the year represents cases of a comparatively trivial nature, such as Sanitary Offences, failure to take out licences for Guns and to renew existing licences, and must not be taken as an indication of any accession of criminality among the natives of the Protectorate. Indeed, the increasing authority of the Chiefs and Headmen, who have ranged themselves on the side of Law and Order, has had a

most beneficial effect by inducing the Natives to seek advice and assistance instead of taking the law into their own hands, which, in the past, so often resulted in the commission of serious crime and in the creation of vendettas that were prosecuted ruthlessly whenever a favourable occasion arose.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

57. The Provincial Medical Officer states in the Annual Report, which he has submitted to the Principal Medical Officer, that the health of the Europeans, who, with the exception of the British Cotton Growing Association's representative and the Peires Blancs at Navarro, were Government Officials, was fairly good, and that there was no death. One European was invalided from Salaga for Black-water Fever in January and fifteen cases were treated among the Officials. The most common disease was Malaria. No statistics as to the number of European Officials resident in the Protectorate during the year are available.

58. The health of the Native Officials was also fairly good. There was no death or invaliding among them and only 14 cases were treated. As in the case of the Europeans, the prevalent disease was Malaria.

Native Population.

59. The Census, completed in 1911, gave an estimated population of 361,806 to the Northern Territories, with a computed area of 31,100 square miles: an average of 11·6 persons to the square mile. The Census Returns for the Southern and North-Western Provinces were considered to be fairly accurate, but those of the North-Eastern Province fell far short of being correct, and it is estimated that not more than two-thirds of the inhabitants were enumerated. Systematic work continues to be carried on in order to render the next Census Returns reliable in every respect, and Commissioners have been provided with Census Books in which the names of all villages will be entered and a classified register of their inhabitants kept up to date. In spite of the heavy infant mortality it is considered that the population at the present day is greatly in excess of that shown in the last Census Returns.

60. No serious outbreak of epidemic disease occurred during the year. Anthrax was reported to have broken out at the village of Zongoiri in the Bawku District of the North-Eastern Province, where eight natives died, but the Medical Officer who visited the village found that it had not spread, and that there were no further cases of infection.

61. Leprosy is not on the increase and, while uncommon in the Southern and North-Western Provinces, is of more frequent occurrence in the North-Eastern Province. The natives look upon it as "a visitation of Allah," but say that it shows no signs of spreading and are generally averse to compulsory isolation.

62. The Medical Officer at Salaga states that the death rate in that District for the year was 33·25 per 1,000.

63. The Provincial Medical Officer considers that much of the disease among the native population is caused by the poor water supply.

Water Supply.

64. Reports on the Water supply at Outstations rendered by Medical Officers during the year showed the supply was generally inadequate.*
The Provincial Medical Officer writes on the subject as follows :—

"As far as *Tamale* is concerned the supply is certainly insufficient. "Three new Wells have been dug but at present are not satisfactory, "they are to be deepened and covers placed over all Wells so that "they can be closed when advisable. These works were sanctioned "by the Sanitary Committee.

"I can only advise that more Wells be dug, if only a small supply "is derived from each the aggregate is increased and no proper perma- "nent supply has yet been struck.

"I am informed that all Wells now in use practically dry up in "the dry Season. One is kept in reserve for Europeans and I believe "has never altogether dried, a second Well is only opened for non- "Europeans when others have failed, even at this the water supply is "quite insufficient. There is considerable Dysentery, Diarrhoea and "Guinea Worm : largely due probably to the bad water. Skin disease "is exceptionally common and in a large measure due to want of suffi- "cient water for washing etc. The deepest Well is 37 feet."

Water Finder.

65. "The Water Finder has been tried twice at Tamale and at "Wa and Lorha, it has given no indication of the presence of water "even when placed on the upper slopes within two yards of a Well "into which the water was running at the time."

66. Experimental borings for water were undertaken at Tamale and varied in depth from 7 to 73 feet but no springs were located.

Two Rotary and two Semi Rotary Pumps were fixed to Wells in Tamale and are working satisfactorily.

Note By Secretariat :—The Director of Geological Survey however reports as follows under date 11th March, 1916 :—

"In my opinion there is not the slightest cause for anxiety as to a probable shortage "of water for domestic purposes in Tamale in any dry season following a rainy season "similar to the last. All the evidence points to the natural but temporary storage of "quantities of water far beyond the present necessities of Tamale. This water needs "only to be tapped and stored in wells, but not wasted."

Meteorological Observations.

67. The rainfall during the year as recorded at Tamale was 42·65, an increase of 9·33 inches over that of the previous year. The following Table shows the monthly Rainfall for the last seven years :—

	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915
January	2.00	nil	nil	0.01	nil	.05	nil
February ..	0.44	0.27	nil	0.02	0.72	nil	nil
March	2.23	1,17	7.98	1.64	0.72	1.63	5.65
April	6.12	5.77	1.68	3.75	1.57	.43	1.10
May	4.54	2.37	4.94	2.83	3.31	2.56	8.66
June	7.69	6.07	6.21	3.57	6.43	4.81	5.27
July	7.07	9.19	6.11	4.06	7.00	2.09	6.02
August	7.91	8.45	6.94	7.25	14.58	3.94	4.85
September ..	5.67	11.34	8.09	5.35	11.29	10.85	8.34
October	7.50	1.29	1.50	3.87	2.29	4.77	2.66
November ..	0.32	nil	0.97	nil	nil	2.19	nil
December ..	0.09	0.29	nil	0.01	nil	nil	0.10
	51.58	46.21	44.42	32.36	48.01	33.32	42.65

VIII.—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

68. Post and Telegraph Offices are established at Tamale, Salaga, and Yeji.

The Telegraph Office at Gambaga remained closed as such during the year, owing to the shortage of qualified operators, as would have been the case with those at Bole and Wa had not the Commissioners' clerks learnt the Morse Code, which enabled telegrams to be despatched from Kintampo to, and from, those Stations. Telephone communication was also kept up between the above mentioned Stations. The Telephone Instrument at Gambaga was damaged by lightning in October and has not yet been replaced.

69. Letters are received and despatched from all Stations and the Commissioners have stamps for sale.

Telephones are fitted to the houses and offices at Tamale but the central switch board was damaged by lightning in April and remained out of repair for the remainder of the year.

70. Telegrams were received at, and despatched from, Tamale, as compared with 1914, as follows :—

	Received.		Despatched.	
	1914	1915	1914	1915
Official	3 055	2,396	2,853	2,225
Private	1,086	992	1,286	1,218

71. The following statistics show the business done in the Post Office Tamale as compared with that of the previous year.

	1914	1915
Stamps sold	£190 8 11	£187 16 2
Postal Orders Commission	9 14 1	8 10 7
Money Orders Commission	2 19 7	4 16 3
Registration of Telegraph Address ..	1 1 0	— — —
Postal Orders sold	647 7 0	576 1 6
Poundage on same	9 14 1	8 10 7
Money Orders issued	265 4 9	462 16 0
Commission on same	2 19 9	4 16 3
	1,129 9 2	1,253 7 4

Mails despatched South	99	Bags	75	Parcels Mails.
Mails despatched North	190	,,	2	,, ,,
Mails received South ..	365	,,	57	,, ,,
Mails received North ..	180	,,	4	,, ,,

There are eight permanent postmen stationed at Tamale. Six of these are engaged in running North with Mails to Nasia and Gambaga, and two to Konkori on the road to Wa.

Salaga.

72. Postal Orders to the value of £271 18s. 4d. and Postage Stamps to the value of £69 11s. 10d. were sold, as compared with £264 4s. 3d. for Postal Orders and £64 15s. 7d. for Stamps paid in during the previous year.

809 Mail Bags were dealt with, as compared with 879 in 1914 and the following telegrams were received and despatched.

	Received.	Despatched.
Official ..	621	569
Private ..	529	821

73. Eight permanent postmen are employed as mail carriers, but this number is not nearly sufficient to transport the mails, and local carriers have to be engaged at short notice. This service is most unpopular among the local natives, 428 of whom were employed during the year.

Yeji.

74. The sale of Postal Orders amounted to £197 8s. 8d., and of Stamps to £34 17s. 10d.

Bole.

75. There was no Telegraph Clerk at this Station, but telegraphic communication between Kintampo and Wa was kept up after the Commissioner's clerk had learnt the Morse Code.

Wa.

76. Stamps were sold to the value of £69 17s. 7½d.

IX.—RELIGION.

77. The Father Superior of the Roman Catholic Mission (Péres Blancs), established at Navarro in 1908, states that the number of Converts was 287 at the end of the year, of whom 139 were baptised and received into the Church. Natives to the number of four hundred attend, more or less regularly, the classes which the Fathers hold daily in one or other section of the Navarro Township. Four Fathers were in residence at the Mission throughout the year.

78. The Wesleyan Methodist Mission was given permission to establish itself in the Northern Territories in 1912. The General Superintendent of the Gold Coast District stated that it is not their intention to undertake any work elsewhere in the Protectorate than at Tamale for some years to come, or until the construction of a Mission Station has been completed. Nothing has been done in the latter direction during the year and the Government School House was lent to the resident Missionary in which to hold services on Sundays.

The Mission was closed in March by the departure of the European Missionary on leave and has not been re-opened. Some 20 of the Tamale School boys received religious instruction with the consent of their parents, but no converts to Christianity, either among them or the adult population, appear to have been made.

79. The following, which appeared under this Head in my Annual Report for 1911, requires no amendment, with the exception of the number of Christians, quoted from the Census returns, which has been increased by the convertions made by the Péres Blanc as referred to above.

The relative numbers of Christians, Mohammedans and Pagans in the Northern Territories, as shown in the Census Returns for 1911, were as follows :—

Christians.	Mohammedans.	Pagans.
133	42,598	319,075

Mohammedanism would appear to make little, if any, progress in this Dependency, and is, in the case of many of those professing its tenets, of a debased form, and more than tainted with the prevailing paganism. The bulk of the Mohammedan population is to be found in the Southern Province.

Larabanga, in the Bole District, is a stronghold of Mohammedans, and it is the proud boast of the Chief and Imam that not a single pagan resides in the town. The latter carefully guards an ancient copy of the Koran, bound in several volumes, which is stated to have been the property of the Mohammedan founder of Larabanga, who came from Mecca, having left his Koran behind. After many days of prayer and fasting, the Koran was miraculously restored to him at Larabanga, and has been reverenced by succeeding Imams ever since.

The chief centres of Mohammedanism are, in the Southern Province Tamale and its surrounding villages, Salaga, Bole and Larabanga ; in the North-Eastern Province Gambaga, Wale-Wale, and Bawku ; in the North-Western Province, Wa, Gurupisi, Uasa, and Wahabu.

A Mohammedan Priest resident at Navarro, in the North-Eastern Province, is reported to have made no headway at all, and has so far not succeeded in making a single convert.

80. Although the pagan portions of the population show no great desire, as a whole, to abandon their form of belief, they exhibit no sort of resentment towards the members of other denominations. The belief of the heathen portion of the native community is a primordial animism. Each town or village has its own "fetish" which is usually to be found at the entrance to the Chief's or Priest's compound, and takes various forms, such as a conical pile of earth, or a three pronged stick, supporting a pot in which grows a shrub.

grass, or an aquatic plant. These represent the "fetish" itself, which is recognised in many forms, as of lightning, a lion, hawk, crocodile, snake, tortoise, or other animal, bird or reptile. Such "fetishes" guard and watch over the general welfare of the village and its inhabitants and communicate with the latter through their priests. When offended these "fetishes" are propitiated by the sacrifice of sheep or goats, and of black cats or dogs.

Every family has its own "fetish," usually a conical heap of clay with a small pot sunk in its apex. It is to be seen outside every compound, and is consulted on all matters relating to the welfare of the family. Sacrifices are made to it by killing fowls over it, and allowing their blood to run into the pot and over its support; the birds' feathers then being stuck on before the blood congeals.

The "Lightning Fetish" is the most dreaded, and is universally invoked to revenge theft. No native would dream of attempting to arrest a conflagration caused by lightning. The veneration of ancestors also forms part of the native religious belief, and their shades are consulted through the family fetish.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Political.

81. Our cordial relations with our French neighbours were maintained throughout the year.

In January I met Captain Bouchez, the French representative, at Gambaga, and with him arrived at a temporary agreement with regard to our respective Governments' Spheres of Influence in North-West Togoland.

Visits were exchanged between the Commissioners at Wa, Lorha and Tumu in the North-Western Province and the French Residents at Leo and Goawa in Haut Senegal.

A Commissioner was stationed at Yendi, the Capital of Togoland-Dagomba throughout the year.

Administration.

The Chief Commissioner administered the Protectorate until July when he proceeded on leave, after handing over to Major B. Moutray-Read who acted for him until the end of the year.

Great difficulty was experienced in keeping open the various Stations owing to the number of Administrative Officers who were either seconded for Military Service or were requisitioned by the Governor for service in other parts of the Colony.

The Medical Department saved a serious situation by permitting its Officers to act as Commissioners, and I am under a deep obligation to those who willingly performed Administrative duties in addition to their work as Medical Officers.

Native Affairs.

83. The relations between the Administration and the Chiefs and people continue to improve and may now be described as cordial.

The attitude of the Natives, during the many changes and withdrawals of Administrative Officers necessitated by the War, was generally exemplary. The one danger spot that exists is in the neighbourhood of the imaginary line running East and West that constitutes the boundary between the Protectorate and French Territory. This in many cases, bisects villages whose inhabitants find themselves in French Territory in the Northern portion and in British in the Southern. Under such conditions local fights and constant disturbances must be anticipated. The year passed, however, without the occurrence of any incident of a serious nature.

The difficulty experienced owing to the shortage of Officers in keeping open stations, especially in the Northern Districts of the Protectorate, where the natives, many of whom have never moved beyond a mile or so from their compounds, interpret the closing down of a District Station as meaning that the Whiteman is leaving the Country and that the old days of lawlessness are about to return, was the cause of much anxiety.

On the withdrawal of " their Commissioner," as the Chiefs call the Administrative Officer of the District, they, (the Chiefs), lose all their authority over their subjects, and barely tolerate, if they do not resent, the occasional visit of a Commissioner from another District. The natives, for their part, will not at present dream of leaving the vicinity of their compounds to take their complaints to the Commissioner resident in a neighbouring District, which is to them a " strange land " and one to be avoided, or to make them to him when he visits their villages, where he is looked upon as a stranger, with the result that they frequently take the law into their own hands, with the natural consequences.

84. When on a tour of inspection in the Zouaragu District in February, my suspicious were aroused during a visit to the Tong Hills, where the well-known " Fetish," which was supposed to have been destroyed when the Hills were taken in 1911, has its home. On investigation I found that the " Fetish " had been secretly revived and that its malign influence was once more at work among the natives. After effecting the arrest of the " Petanaba," (owner), and " Tindana," (Priest), of the " Fetish," I addressed an assemblage of Chiefs and people from the Districts surrounding the Tong Hills. The Chiefs admitted the revival of the " Fetish," but said that it was as much as their lives were worth to report it to the Commissioners. They admitted that the " Fetish "

was bad and exercised an evil influence on the people and I thereupon called upon them to help me to rid the Country of it. They promised to do so, and next day I rode into the Hills, accompanied by the Commissioners of the Province and District, and followed by bands of natives, who, when their first fears had worn off, started the systematic destruction of the "Grove" that surrounded the big rock out-crops where the "Fetish" lived. An artificial cave, in which the "Priest" concealed himself and voiced the "Fetish," was discovered and destroyed.

Next day the natives in largely increased numbers returned to the Hills and completed the destruction of the "Fetish" by making an immense pyre of dry grass, and of brushwood and timber from the "Grove," round the rocks and setting fire to it. The conflagation that ensued was considered to have "killed" the "Fetish."

85. The response of the Chiefs and people to an invitation to contribute to the Gold Coast Imperial War Fund was spontaneous, and when remitting a sum of £1,826 that had been collected in the Protectorate, I wrote "Although "the aggregate sum may appear to be small as compared to those collected in "the Colony and Ashanti it represents a remarkable demonstration by the "natives of this Protectorate of their loyalty to the Government, and of their "wish to identify themselves with a movement that originated among the "Coast Natives."

Personal contributions represented anything from a sum of £20 by the "NA" of Mamprussi to a cow, sheep, fowl, or even a handful of cowries subscribed to the Fund by every class of native, none of whom could be described as well-off.

ROADS.

86. The Provincial Commissioners report on the roads of their respective Provinces as follows:—

NORTH-EASTERN PROVINCE.

"All Roads throughout the Province were well maintained. The unusually "heavy rains played havoc in parts, and Bridges especially suffered, and were, "in many cases, washed right away, but these were all mended or renewed "before the end of the year.

"All the main routes in the Province, and the greater number of the "interior connecting routes, are now constructed 20 feet wide.

"Cattle Caravans do a great deal of damage to the roads by breaking "down the sides of drains and embankments.

North-Western Province.

87. "All roads throughout the Province were cleaned when necessary "and Road Dues paid. A new stretch of road was constructed between the "Kulpawn River and Lilixia.

"The Bridges and Culverts on the Roads in the Lorha District suffered "heavily during the rains, and it is not proposed to rebuild them, as they "disappear every year."

Southern Province.

88. *Tamale.*—"The Tamale-Yapei Road has been repaired, as well as the "Timber and Stone Bridges. Owing to a lack of cement no work was under-"taken on the Culverts.

"The Tamale-Yamalaga, the Tamale-Savelugu-Nasia, and the Tamale-"Daboya, Roads have all been cleaned.

"*Salaga.*—The Makongo Road to Salaga has been constructed short of Maliki "Zongo 8½ miles. One Bridge, one Stone embankment, two large banks and "a few masonry Culverts were completed. The work is progressing well, "and when more labour is available the road will soon reach Makongo. "It "ought then to be easy to run Cars from the edge of the Makongo embankment "to Salaga. If a small permanent gang of carriers were employed at Yeji "they could carry the loads over the embankment from the Ferry and load up "the Motor Car, as at the present time the embankment is not safe for Cars, "and will require to be repaired before they can be run over it.

"*Bole.*—All the roads, some 180 miles, have been kept in repair. The main "Road between Wa and Kintampo, some 120 miles, has been cleared. It is, "however, not a good road, the greater part having no system of drainage. "This is chiefly due to the very difficult nature of the soil, which would render "the making of ditches an arduous undertaking.

"*Yeji.*—Six miles of road has been constructed and about three miles recon-"structed which completes the Prang-Yeji road. The road is now in fairly "good condition. The Makongo Road has been repaired and three Bridges "have been partly rebuilt. Two new Culverts have been added."

Rest Houses.

89. Excellent Rest-Houses to the number of 253 have been built and maintained by the Chiefs of all the more important villages in the Protectorate.

They are generally of the round-house type, with conical thatched roof, and stand in large compounds often surrounded by thick 'swish' walls.

Ferries.

90. The two Ferries under Government control are situated on the Volta River at Yeji, and the Dakar River at its confluence with the Volta River.

Steel canoes have been placed on the Yeji Ferry and at Ferries at Prang and Yamalaga on the main Tamale road, at Nasia on the main road from Tamale to Gambaga and at Adere on the Black Volta River on the Kintampo-Bole road.

The Commissioner of the Southern Province reports on the Yeji Ferry as follows :—

"The Tolls for the year at Yeji Ferry amounted to £1,516 0s. 3d. as "against £1,659 5s. 3d. for 1914, a decrease of £143 5s. 0d. The falling off "occurred in the third quarter of the year and was mainly due to the heavy "rains and to the flooded state of the River, which made the crossing of Cattle "and Sheep extremely dangerous and attended with serious loss.

"A small temporary Landing Stage has been erected at each side of the "Ferry, to protect the Steel Pontoons from the bank.

"The Ferry on the Pru River was in use for nearly 3½ months, the Ford "being quite impassable during this time."

The Ferry at the confluence of the Volta and Dakar Rivers was worked throughout the year. The Returns show that 9,601 Cattle crossed it, and this was the principal source of revenue. The total amount collected was £287 18s. 6d.

Many other Ferries are in use on all the Volta Rivers and some of their Tributaries, and are worked by the local Chiefs.

Transport.

91. Government Stores are despatched by Motor Lorries to Ejura from Coomassie, thence to Yeji by carrier transport and by the Volta River in Canoe to Tamale Port, (Yapei).

No permanent gangs were employed in the Protectorate for transport and the 2,051 loads transported from Tamale Port to Tamale during the year were carried by locally engaged men who received 6d. per diem for the work. 2,033 loads were handled at Salaga and despatched to Tamale.

Public Works.

92. The following Public Works were completed or put in hand during the year :—

Tamale.—One Type "B" Bungalow completed.
One Type "B" Bungalow nearly completed.
Thirty Stables for Northern Territories Constabulary, partly roofed.
Extension of Government School completed.

Annex to Tamale Prison completed.
One Type "A" Bungalow nearly ready for roofing.
Public Works Store completed.
Additions to Tamale Prison completed.

Salaga.—An European Bungalow and Stables commenced in July, 1914, was nearly completed, the delay being caused by the difficulty in obtaining cement.

Bole.—A new Bungalow for the Medical Officer, commenced in November, 1914, was completed early in the year, and the building of a new Prison containing six Cells was commenced.

The Commissioner North-Eastern Province reports :—

93. "At Gambaga only minor works were undertaken and the following "completed :—

"A Guard Room, Magazine, and store.
"A Dressing Place at the Dispensary.
"A Shelter for the Guard at the Prison.
"The following are in hand, and will be completed early in 1916.
"Re-roofing the Commissioner's and Medical Officer's Bungalow.
"Re-roofing of the Constabulary Lines.
"New Quarters for Commissioner's Clerks and School Teacher.
"A considerable amount of the above work would have been completed "had it been possible to get a Carpenter.

"At Bawku the only work undertaken was the repairing and re-thatching "of the District Commissioner's Bungalow and Constabulary Lines.

"At Zouaragu no new works were undertaken and all houses are in good "repair, including Officers of the Gold Coast Regiment's Quarters."

94. The Commissioner North Western Province reports :—

"Beyond the up-keep of existing Buildings little work of importance was "done during the year.

"In Tumu the Medical Officer's Bungalow was re-roofed, the walls height-"ended and the Verandah enlarged.

"At Wa, a new Sanitary Store was built and the Fort re-roofed, mostly "with sawn Timber Scantlings.

"New Constabulary Lines were started towards the end of the year."

Entomological Research Commission.

95. Doctor J. J. Simpson, of the West African Entomological Research Commission, (Colonial Office), arrived in the Protectorate in August, and carried out research work at Tamale Port and in the surrounding Country till the end of the year.

Preventive Service.

96. All Preventive Stations in the Northern Territories were closed down in September and the Officials withdrawn.

Imigration and Emigration.

97. A few Fulanis arrive from time to time to settle in the Northern portions of the Protectorate where they take charge of the herds of Cattle belonging to the local natives. Beyond this there is but little immigration to record.

There is a migratory period every year towards Coomassie commencing about the end of October. A considerable number of boys then go down to find work, but in course of time most of these find their way back to their Country, many returning in April or May. Gangs of boys are usually conducted by a native who has been to Coomassie before and their members each carry with them a scanty supply of food and little else.

The Commissioner of the North-Westernn Province reports that, between the 15th September and the 15th November, 1,231 natives, mostly from the Lobi and Dagarti Tribes, were counted as they passed through Wa on their way to Coomassie.

Labour.

98. Unskilled labour at the rate of 6d. per diem is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain ; which cannot be wondered at when so many of the natives have realized that, by going to Coomassie, they can readily obtain from 1/- to 2/- per diem for their services. All skilled labour is obtained from the Colony or Ashanti at a laily rate of from 1/9 to 3/6.

There are no openings at present for white labour.

C. H. ARMITAGE,

Chief Commissioner, Northern Territories.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
884	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1914-15
885	Weihaiwei	1915
886	Zanzibar	,,
887	Fiji	,,
888	Sierra Leone	,,
889	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
890	Gambia	,,
891	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
892	Hong Kong	,,
893	Ashanti	,,
894	Gold Coast	,,
895	Malta	1915-1916
896	St. Helena	1915
897	Seychelles	,,
898	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1915-1916
899	Gibraltar	1915
900	Bahamas	1915-1916
901	Swaziland	,,
902	Somaliland	,,
903	Cyprus	,,
904	Ceylon	1915
905	Straits Settlements	,,
906	Grenada	1915-1916
907	Falkland Islands	1915
908	Bermuda	,,
909	Jamaica	1915-1916
910	British Guiana	1915
911	Basutoland	1915-1916
912	Barbados	,,
913	Leeward Islands	,,
914	Uganda	,,
915	British Honduras	1915
916	Mauritius	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlements.

Printed in Accra.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 956.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1916.

(For Report for 1915 see No. 917.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
March, 1918.

PRINTED AT ACCRA.

LONDON:
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The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
921	East Africa Protectorate	1915–1916
922	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	„
923	Hong Kong	1916
924	Weihaiwei	„
925	Zanzibar	„
926	Fiji	„
927	Turks and Caicos Islands	„
928	Cayman Islands	1915–1916
929	Seychelles	1916
930	Trinidad and Tobago	„
931	Gibraltar	„
932	Bahamas	1916–1917
933	St. Helena	1916
934	Ceylon	„
935	Malta	1916–1917
936	Gambia	1916
937	British Guiana	„
938	Falkland Islands	„
939	Sierra Leone	„
940	Straits Settlements	„
941	Cyprus	1916–1917
942	Grenada	„
943	Jamaica	„
944	Somaliland	„
945	Swaziland	„
946	Nigeria	1916
947	Basutoland	1916–1917
948	Gold Coast	1916
949	Ashanti	„
950	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1916–1917
951	Barbados	„
952	Leeward Islands	„
953	St. Vincent	„
954	Uganda	„
955	Nyasaland	„

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

(C457) Wt.11/42. 1000 & 90. 5.18. B.&F.Ltd. Gp. 11/2.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR 1916.

GOVERNMENT PRESS, ACCRA
1917.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR 1916.

Financial.

1. With the abolition of the "Caravan Tolls" on the 1st September 1908, which in 1907 realized a sum of £18,046 19s. 6d., the Revenue of the Protectorate became a practically negligible quantity and will remain so until a system of cheap transport stimulates the latent industries of the country.

2. The trade roads, which are maintained at considerable expense and by the employment of a large amount of labour, are made use of by the numerous Caravans that travel free of all charges, Southward to Ashanti and Northward to French Territory.

3. Customs Receipts for goods imported into the Protectorate, and the profits made by the Gold Coast Government Railway from the transport of live-stock and goods that arrive at Coomassie from, or through, the Northern Territories, are credited to the general revenue of the Colony, as is the ad-valorem duty on the purchases made by native traders, who return from Coomassie with goods representing the proceeds of their sales.

4. The increasing amount of native labour supplied from this Protectorate to Ashanti, and, in a lesser degree, to the Colony, without which the Cocoa, and other, industries would undoubtedly suffer, should no more be overlooked than the fact that this exodus of the young male population, which has called forth protests from the local Chiefs, who complain that they are left without sufficient labour to farm the land, will contribute in the future to the advancement of the inhabitants of the Protectorate through the dissemination, by their countrymen, who, in the great majority of cases, return to their homes, of a broader and more enlightened outlook than could be acquired by a life-long residence within therestricted limitsof a small district, but it is to be feared that there is an increasing tendency among these young emigrants to abandon the country of their birth and to make new homes for themselves in the Colony and Ashanti.

5. The reduction of the Political and Medical Staffs of the Protectorate owing to the exigencies of the War has effected a considerable saving in expenditure this year.

6. The Nickel Coinage of three denominations—one penny, one half-penny and one tenth of a penny—introduced into the Protectorate in June 1913, continues to be popular, but the Commissioners report that the natives have commenced to melt down this coinage in order to transform it into articles of adornment: a practice only too common with regard to our silver currency.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

7. No figures, that would give an accurate estimate of the volume of trade entering and leaving the country, are available. Trade Statistics are kept at Stations situated on the main trade routes, but as the registration of live-stock and trade goods is voluntary, and as many Caravans—especially those composed of live-stock—pass through the Stations during the night, the figures given can be looked on only as an indication of a general increase or decrease in trade, as the case may be. The Trade Routes from the North through Daboya to Kintampo, and others of minor importance, do not pass through any Stations where Statistics can be collected, nor are such compiled at Kintampo in Ashanti. Added to this, the temporary closing of two District Stations in the North-Eastern Province during the year under review make an estimate of the year's trade even less dependable.

8. Imports consist generally of Cotton and Woollen goods, Silk Handkerchiefs and lengths, Hardware, Haberdashery, Beads, Brass Rods, Tobacco, Tinned Provisions, and Kola Nuts from Ashanti. The bulk of this trade, which showed a general increase, especially in Kola, passes into French Territory.

9. Owing to an out-break of Rinderpest in the Niger Valley which extended Westwards and threatened Haut Senegal and Niger, it was feared that there would be a very great decrease in the number of Cattle passing through the Protectorate into Ashanti and the Colony, but such does not appear to have been the case. The quarantine cordon established, and restrictions imposed, by the French showed their effect in the North-Eastern Province, which, however, was more than balanced by the increase in the number of Cattle that were driven down the Trade Routes of the North-Western Province. The number of Cattle recorded as passing through the Protectorate was 77,656 of which 25,903 crossed the Yeji Ferry. The large breed, known as "Moshi Cattle," and possessing a dorsal hump, is purchased in French country and forms the vast majority of the Cattle that pass South through the country, but a few herds of the "Dagomba" type of Cattle, bred in the Protectorate, have been driven to Coomassie, where good prices were realized for them. Out-breaks of Anthrax and Cattle Plague are, unfortunately, but of too common occurrence among the Northern Territories herds to allow at present of the Cattle trade of the Protectorate becoming a staple industry.

10. From the figures available, an increase over 1915 of no less than 174,188 is shown in the number of sheep and goats that passed through the Protectorate during the year. Most of these are bred in the country. Fowls in considerable numbers are also exported to Ashanti.

11. Salt, to the amount of 15,541 bags, was transported by canoe to Tamale Port (Yapei), for sale and distribution throughout the Protectorate and adjoining Territories, while 299 bags crossed the Dakar Ferry. It is highly probable that a considerable portion of the Salt Trade found it's way North through Togoland. On their return journey from Tamale Port the Salt Traders canoes carry Fowls, Shea-butter, Native Cloth and a considerable number of horns of the Bush Cow and of various species of Antelope shot by the natives, which, it is said, command a ready sale on the Coast.

12. Fish, caught in the Volta River and sun-dried, are exported to Ashanti and the Coast, but this industry is in the hands of the Bator tribe who come up the river and encamp on it's banks during the fishing season.

The Commissioner of the North-Eastern Province reports that large quantities of dried fish have been carried down both the Eastern and Western Routes of the Province.

13. In spite of existing conditions and of a certain amount of unrest among the natives that showed itself in the North-Eastern Province during the year, trade in local products—Shea-butter, extracted from the fruit of Butyrospermum Parkii: "Dawa Dawa," a food prepared from the seeds and flour-like substance contained in the pods of the Locust Bean, (Parkia filicoidea), and Ground Nuts, (Arachis hypogoea)—has not only remained normal, but, in other directions, has actually increased as indicated above.

AGRICULTURE.

14. The rains, which were very heavy, but which are described as having come to an abrupt termination in October, insured a fair harvest generally, but adversely affected the cereal crops that had not been sown early in the year and which gave but a light yield. The Yam and Ground Nut crops were good. In addition to the above, certain varieties of Beans are grown, and tobacco is cultivated for local consumption.

15. The following paragraphs appeared in last year's Annual Report for the Northern Territories and apply to-day:—"The breeding of a straight-backed species of Cattle commonly known as "Dagomba," and somewhat resembling small Jerseys, is carried on throughout the Protectorate, but under the most primitive conditions, and no attempt is made to improve the breed by selection. Periodical out-breaks of Anthrax and Pleuro-Pneumonia decimate the herds, as no steps are taken to isolate the infected beasts. The beef of the "Dagomba" Cattle is superior to that of the humped "Moshi" variety, but no venture has been undertaken on a large scale to compete with

the French Moshi Cattle Traders in the Coomassie Market, although such Dagomba Cattle as have been sold there realized excellent prices. Every effort is being made to persuade the natives to take their Cattle to Coomassie, but until an European Veterinary Officer in permanent residence in the country has gained the confidence of the natives and has inculcated on them practical methods of improving the breed and warding off infectious disease, little can be done. An occasional tour through the country by a Veterinary Officer—European or Native—is of little or no use and has no beneficial results, as the native is extremely suspicious of these infrequent visits, which he associates with some future form of taxation with the result that he will, if possible, hide his Cattle from the Inspecting Officer. Oxen are not made use of for ploughing, the hoe being the only implement employed in tilling the land."

"Wire-haired Sheep and Goats are bred everywhere, and large flocks of Guinea-Fowl, scarcely distinguishable from their wild relatives, run free through most villages. Fowls are also reared and carried South in considerable quantities for sale."

Agricultural Station Tamale.

16. The Senior Curator reports that the 1915—16 season was more favourable than usual, when manurial and other experimental works were undertaken. During the year 40 acres were under annual crops, 48 acres under perennial, and 10 acres were lying fallow. A well manured plot of Cotton produced a crop of 512-lbs. per acre, but the average yield over 24½ acres, manured and unmanured, was only 105-lbs. per acre. The Sisal plots—15 acres—are now mature, but the length of leaf is not great, a few reaching 4′ 9″, but the quality of the fibre is good and strong. Progress in the Timber Tree Section is not good owing to the poor nature of the soil and there is the greatest difficulty in getting young trees to weather the first dry season. Mole-crickets became a great pest during the dry season. Teak trees grow well when once established. Teak seeds were sent to all Outstations to form nurseries and plantations, but it is reported that few of them germinated. Other crops grown were Yam, Maize, Guinea Corn, Rice, the "Fra-Fra" and Sweet Potatoes, Cassava, Ground Nuts, Pigeon Peas and several varieties of Beans.

Stock Farm.

17. The Stock Farm suffered a very serious set-back during the year. A contagious disease, undiagnosed at the time, but subsequently considered by Doctor G. E. H. LeFanu to be Cattle Plague, broke out in the Government Herd in June. The herd, which on the 1st January consisted of 2 Bulls, 25 Cows, 6 Oxen and 28 Calves, was reduced at the end of the year to 2 Bulls, 9 Cows and 1 Ox, by deaths and compulsory slaughters and sales. Of the grade animals bred on the Farm but one young bull remained.

British Cotton Growing Association.

18. The Association's operations were closed down in July and it's buildings at Tamale were taken over by the Government, as it was proved that under existing conditions, and with but one European representative to further it's interests, Cotton growing in the Northern Territories could not hope to become a remunerative industry for export purposes. Seed Cotton to the amount of 35,445-lbs. was purchased during the first half year and a further 32 bales, representing 6,537-lbs. of Cotton lint, have been despatched since then to the Association's Agents at Labolabo.

Industries.

19. Apart from Agriculture, native Industries are confined to the production of articles of local use and wear. Serviceable cloths are woven from native Cotton Yarn, and Pottery, Baskets, Mats, Rope, Saddlery and Leather goods, Brass Ornaments, and Iron Hoes and Axe-heads are manufactured, with other small articles necessary for the wants of a primitive people.

20. The dyeing of native cloths and Cotton goods and the smelting of Iron from the ore give employment to natives in various parts of the Protectorate, and Salt is produced by evaporation at Daboya. Gunpowder is manufactured in small quantities in Grunshi, but does not possess a high point of ignition.

Minerals.

21. Gold bearing quartz and alluvial deposits have been found in the neighbourhood of Wa and in the Bole District, where they are worked by Ashantis, and a certain amount of prospecting was carried out in the Dependency in 1902 and succeeding years, but lack of transport facilities debarred the undertaking of mining operations on a large scale, and such Mining Concessions as were acquired have lapsed.

22. The Geological Survey party visited and reported on a large area of the country during the year. The hilly portions of the North-Eastern and North-Western Provinces were not traversed by them on this occasion. An important discovery of lime-stone was made, which it is hoped may prove to be of economic value.

III.—LEGISLATION.

23. Four Ordinances applicable to the Northern Territories were enacted by the Governor, and Rules with regard to Motor Transport in the Northern Territories were framed and approved by His Excellency.

IV.—EDUCATION.

24. The average daily attendance at the Government Primary School at Tamale was not so good as during the previous year, having dropped from 80 to 65. On the other hand the progress made was more satisfactory, and at the end of the year there were the names of 89 pupils on the School books. The annual examination was held in November with very gratifying results, when 85 pupils attended. Two of the more advanced scholars were employed at the Agricultural Station, and two others in the Post Office, as learners. Five boys attended the Technical School at Accra. Of these, one completed his course during the year: two were withdrawn as being unsuitable, and one elected not to return at the end of his vacation leave. Three boys were sent down to the Accra Training College at the end of the year, and it is hoped that they will return to the Northern Territories as qualified teachers when they have finished their course of instruction.

25. The average daily attendance at the Gambaga School rose from 15 in 1915 to 36. These boys come from the Mamprussi and Bawku Districts, there being only one representative from Zouaragu, and none from the Navarro, Districts of the North-Eastern Province.

26. The Roman Catholic Mission School (Pères Blancs), was closed throughout the year owing to lack of funds.

27. A School House was built and equipped at Wa, the Headquarters of the North-Western Province, and will be opened next year, when a good attendance has been promised.

28. The Chiefs of the Bole District (Southern Province), have also requested that a Government School may be opened at Bole.

29. Malams, who are to be found wherever Mohammedans reside, instruct the children to read and write Hausa in Arabic characters, and in the repetition by heart of passages from the Koran.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

30. In addition to those Government Institutions which are mentioned under the Heads of "Education" and "Judicial Statistics," there are Government native Hospitals established at Tamale, Salaga, Yeji and Bole in the Southern Province: at Wa, Tumu and Lorha in the North-Western, and at Navarro, Zouaragu and Bawku in the North-Eastern, Province. At Gambaga there is a good Dispensary but no Hospital. The first two Hospitals mentioned are permanent buildings constructed by the Public Works Department: the others are built of "Swish," or sun-baked bricks and are thatch-roofed. There were 167 cases admitted to the Tamale Hospital and five deaths occurred. 2,838 cases were treated in the Dispensary. Except at Salaga, where the new native Hospital and Dispensary were not completed until December, there were no Medical Officers in permanent charge of the other Hospitals during the year, for the Medical Officers who had their Headquarters at Gambaga in the North-Eastern, and Wa in the North-Western, Province, travelled constantly between District Stations.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Northern Territories Constabulary.

31. The high standard of discipline maintained for so long by this Force was marred by regrettable events that occurred in connection with disturbances in the North-Eastern Province, when a Sergeant, three Lance Corporals, a Bugler and ten Constables were convicted of Cattle Stealing and were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment. These men were publicly degraded and "drummed" out of the Force on the 7th December.

The general efficiency and shooting of the Force was well maintained and there was no increase in it's establishment, or change in it's organization.

32. By the death of Major J. Marlow, it's Commandant, on the 29th February, the Northern Territories Constabulary experienced a heavy loss. Major Marlow, a strict disciplinarian, became Commandant on the 1st January, 1907, and since then had worked whole-heartedly in promoting the efficiency of the Force and had endeared himself alike to Non-Commissioned Officers and men.

Prison.

33. The Central Prison at Tamale is in charge of the Provincial Medical Officer and a Native Keeper of Prisons with the following staff:—One senior Warder, one second-class Warder, and an average number of sixteen temporary Warders.

34. All prisoners sentenced to six months imprisonment and over undergo their terms of imprisonment in this Prison, where a stricter discipline than is possible at Outstations is maintained.

35. The total number of prisoners admitted during the year was one hundred and three with a daily average number of 69 convicts. Of these, two escaped while at work outside the Prison, and both were recaptured.

36. Three executions for Murder were carried out. There were thirteen deaths in the Prison. The general health of the convicts, who were employed chiefly in sanitary work, water carrying, repairing roads, streets and culverts and sinking wells, was good.

37. Prisoners rations are purchased in the market by the Keeper of Prisons, but a Prison Farm, started early in the year, supplied a large quantity of foodstuffs which were grown by the Prisoners and bought for use in the Prison, where the meals are prepared. Three meals per diem, good in quality and quantity, were provided for prisoners at a cost of a fraction under 2¼d for each man.

38. There are Gaols at Yeji, Salaga, Bole, Wa, Lorha, Tumu, Navarro, Zouaragu, Gambaga and Bawku, where prisoners, whose sentences are less than six months' imprisonment, are confined. These prisoners are employed as at Tamale.

39. Summary jurisdiction obtains in the Northern Territories. The Chief Commissioner presiding in Court has full powers and jurisdiction in the Protectorate as a Judge of the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony, and, as far as it is practicable and local circumstances permit, the procedure in this Court, Civil and Criminal, is the same as that in the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony. Provincial Commissioners hear and determine all Criminal offences, punishable by a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds or imprisonment for twelve months: District Commissioners by a fine not exceeding fifty pounds or imprisonment for six months.

40. The Civil jurisdiction of Provincial Commissioners and District Commissioners is limited to suits in which the claims do not exceed three hundred pounds and fifty pounds respectively.

41. Every encouragement has been given to the Chiefs to exercise their authority; to hear and determine cases relating to native property, marriage, and other Civil actions and to uphold native laws and customs so long as they are not opposed to our ideas of justice and equity. Few appeals from decisions of the Chiefs are made to the Commissioners' Courts, and, as a rule, local authority is exercised with the greatest moderation.

42. The following is a comparative Table of Crime in the Protectorate during the last four years:—

	1913	1914	1915	1916
The Number of offences reported to the Police	664	803	1,167	603
The Number of persons apprehended by the Police or summoned before the Magistrates	664	803	1,167	603
The Number of Summary Convictions:—				
1. For Offences against the Person ..	113	95	62	93
2. For Slave Dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For Offences against Property other than Praedial Larceny	101	93	101	107
4. For Offences against Health Acts ..	135	212	531	205
5. For Offences against Master and Servant Acts including Acts relating to Indentured Coolies	27	30	32	19
6. For other Offences	125	195	307	78
The Number of Convictions in the Superior Courts:—				
1. For Offences against the Person ..	3	24	7	22
2. For Slave Dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For Offences against Property other than Praedial Larceny..	9	6	6	10
4. For other offences	7	14	5	17
The Number of Persons Acquitted:—				
1. In the Inferior Courts	109	122	103	46
2. In the Superior Courts	6	12	5	4

43. In the Southern Province the number of convictions fell from 418 in 1915 to 147 during the year under review.

44. In the North-Eastern Province there was a considerable increase in crime, wholly due to the native unrest in the Zouaragu and Bawku Districts. Ten cases of murder were reported—eight in connection with the Bongo Riots: one from the Gambaga, and one from the Bawku District. Except in the last mentioned case all the criminals were brought to justice.

45. The Commissioner of the North-Western Province reports that serious crime is steadily on the decrease, and this may be said of the whole Protectorate, except where sporadic crime, as in the North-Eastern Province, is engendered by native unrest.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

46. In his Annual Report on the Protectorate, the Provincial Medical Officer states that two deaths occurred among the European Officials—one from heart-failure in February at Tamale, and one from Yellow Fever at Gambaga in October. The names of twelve Officials appeared on the sick list.

47. Among the native Officials only sixteen entries occur on the sick report, with one death.

Native Population.

48. The Census, completed in 1911, gave an estimated population of 361,806 to the Northern Territories, with a computed area of 31,100 square miles: an average of 11·6 persons to the square mile. The Census Returns for the Southern and North-Western Provinces were considered to be fairly accurate, but those of the North-Eastern Province fell far short of being correct, and it is estimated that not more than two-thirds of the inhabitants were enumerated. Systematic work continues to be carried on in order to render the next Census Returns reliable in every respect, and Commissioners have been provided with Census Books in which the names of all villages are entered and a classified r gister of their inhabitants kept up to date. In spite of the heavy infant mortality it is considered that the population at the present day is greatly in excess of that shown in the last Census Returns.

49. Except for an out-break of small-pox at Wa at the end of the year no epidemic disease was recorded. It is reported that the Walas inoculated their children from the virus obtained from those who contracted small-pox.

Two deaths from Anthrax occurred at Salaga.

50. Leprosy is not on the increase and, while uncommon in the Southern and North-Western Provinces, is of more frequent occurrence in the North-Eastern Province. The natives look upon it as "a visitation of Allah," but say that it shows no signs of spreading and are generally averse to compulsory isolation.

Water Supply.

51. The following appeared under this head in the Annual Report for 1915 :—

> "Reports on Water supply at Outstations rendered by Medical Officers during the year showed the supply was generally inadequate.
> "The Provincial Medical Officer writes on the subject as follows :—
>
> "As far as Tamale is concerned the supply is certainly insuffi-
> "cient. Three new Wells have been dug but at present are not
> "satisfactory, they are to be deepened and covers placed over
> "all Wells so that they can be closed when advisable. These
> "works were sanctioned by the Sanitary Committee.
>
> "I can only advise that more Wells be dug, if only a small
> "supply is derived from each the aggregate is increased and no
> "proper permanent supply has yet been struck.
> "I am informed that all Wells now in use practically dry up
> "in the dry season. One is kept in reserve for Europeans and
> "I believe has never altogether dried, a second Well is only opened
> "for non-Europeans when others have failed, even at this the
> "water supply is quite insufficient. There is considerable Dysen-
> "tery, Diarrhoea and Guinea Worm : largely due probably to
> 'the bad water. Skin disease is exceptionally common and in a
> "large measure due to want of sufficient water for washing etc.
> "The deepest Well is 37 feet ;"
> to which was added a note by the Secretariat as follows :—
>
> "The Director of Geological Survey however reports as follows
> "under date 11th March. 1916 :—
>
> "In my opinion there is not the slightest cause for anxiety
> "as to a probable shortage of water for domestic purposes in
> "Tamale in any dry season following a rainy season similar to
> "the last. All the evidence points to the natural but temporary
> "storage of quantities of water far beyond the present necessities
> "of Tamale. This water needs only to be tapped and stored
> "in wells, but not wasted."

52. That the somewhat optimistic views of the Director of Geological Survey were premature is evidenced by the fact that most of the Wells referred to in his Report ran dry in April and May 1916. Given the money and material, a permanent and adequate water supply could be assured by the methods advocated by the Director, but, until these are forthcoming, the water supply at Tamale will remain inadequate.

53. The Provincial Medical Officer considers that much of the disease among the native population is caused by the poor water supply.

54. The Provincial Commissioner North-Eastern Province reports as follows :—

"The European Water supply is good at all stations, and particularly so at Bawku and Gambaga. The native water supply in most places is very bad, consisting, in the dry season, mainly of dug-out holes."

Meteorological Observations.

55. The rainfall during the year as recorded at Tamale was 46·57, an increase of 3·92 inches over that of the previous year. The following Table shows the monthly Rainfall for the last eight years :—

	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916
January ..	2·00	Nil	Nil	0·01	Nil	·05	Nil	Nil
February	0·44	0·27	Nil	0·02	0·72	Nil	Nil	Nil
March ..	2·23	1·17	7·98	1·64	0·72	1·63	5·65	1·54
April ..	6·12	5·77	1·68	3·75	1·57	·43	1·10	4·77
May ..	4·54	2·37	4·94	2·83	3·31	2·56	8·66	6·00
June ..	7·69	6·07	6·21	3·57	6·43	4·81	5·27	5·33
July ..	7·07	9·19	6·11	4.06	7·00	2·09	6·02	6·44
August ..	7·91	8·45	6·94	7.25	14·58	3·94	4·85	13·28
September	5·67	11·34	8·09	5·35	11·29	10·85	8·34	4·63
October ..	7·50	1·29	1·50	3·87	2·29	4·77	2·66	2·71
November	0·32	Nil	0·97	Nil	Nil	2·19	Nil	1·87
December	0·09	0·29	Nil	0·01	Nil	Nil	0·10	Nil
Total ..	51·58	46·21	44·42	32·36	48·01	33·32	42·65	46·57

VIII.—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

56. Post and Telegraph Offices are established at Tamale, Salaga and Yeji.

57. Owing to the shortage of qualified operators, the telegraph line between Kintampo, Bole and Wa would have been closed had not the Commissioners' Clerks learnt the Morse Code and acted as operators. The Telegraph Line between Tamale and Gambaga remained closed throughout the year and the telephone attachment, damaged by lightning in October, 1915, was not repaired until the following August.

58. Letters are received and despatched from all Stations and the Commissioners have stamps for sale.

59. With the exception of the line from the Chief Commissioner's Office to the Post Office, the telephone system at Tamale was not in working order during the year owing to the Central Switch Board having been damaged by lightning in April, 1915.

60. Telegrams were received at, and despatched from, Tamale, as compare with 1915, as follows:—

	Received.		Despatched.	
	1915	1916	1915	1916
Official	2,396	2,343	2,225	2,091
Private	992	524	1,218	577

61. The following statistics show the business done in the Post Office Tamale as compared with that of the previous year.

	1915			1916		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Stamps sold	187	16	2	172	9	4½
Registration of Telegraphic Address ..	1	1	0	1	1	0
Postal Orders sold	576	1	6	616	16	6
Poundage on same	8	10	7	9	14	2
Money Orders issued	462	16	0	288	10	1
Commission on same	4	16	3	2	19	3
Total	£1,241	1	6	£1,092	10	4½

Mails despatched South	103	Bags	33	parcels Mails
Mails despatched North	207	„	3	„ „
Mails received South	358	„	42	„ „
Mails received North	191	„	4	„ „

62. At Salaga Postal Orders to the value of £195 0s. 5d. and Postage Stamps to the value of £59 7s. 10d. were sold as compared with £271 18s. 4d. and £69 11s. 10d. during the previous year, and at Yeji £259 12s. 2d. and £39 18s. 8d. as against £197 8s. 8d. and £34 17s. 10d.

63. An arrangement was arrived at early in the year with the Headman of the Hausa professional carriers whereby he contracted to take over the conveyance of all Mails to and from Tamale. This has worked well and has done away with a genuine grievance that existed among the local natives, who previously had been called upon at short notice to supply carriers for the Mails. A similar arrangement with the Chief of Yeji for the transport of Mails to and from Salaga has proved to be an equal success.

IX.—RELIGION.

64. Four Fathers of the Roman Catholic Mission, (Pères Blancs) established at Navarro in 1908, were in residence during the year, but no statistics are available as to the number of their converts to Christianity, which at the end of 1915 was stated to be 287, of whom 133 had been baptized and received into the Church.

65. Permission was given to the Wesleyan Methodist Mission to establish itself in the Northern Territories in 1912, and a Missionary was installed at Tamale, but during his residence no converts to Christianity appear to have been made among the native population.

Since his departure in March 1915 the Mission has remained closed.

66. The relative numbers of Christians, Mohammedans and Pagans in the Northern Territories, as shown in the Census Returns for 1911, were as follows :—

Christians.	Mohammedans.	Pagans.
133	42,598	319,075

67. Mohammedanism would appear to make little, if any, progress in this Dependency, and is, in the case of many of those professing it's tenets, of a debased form, and more than tainted with the prevailing paganism. The bulk of the Mohammedan population is to be found in the Southern Province.

Larabanga, in the Bole District, is a stronghold of Mohammedans, and it is the proud boast of the Chief and Imam that not a single pagan resides in the town. The latter carefully guards an ancient copy of the Koran, bound in several volumes, which is stated to have been the property of the Mohammedan founder of Larabanga, who came from Mecca, having left his Koran behind. After many days of prayer and fasting, the Koran was miraculously restored to him at Larabanga, and has been reverenced by succeeding Imams ever since.

The chief centres of Mohammedanism are, in the Southern Province, Tamale and it's surrounding villages, Salaga, Bole and Larabanga: in the North-Eastern Province, Gambaga, Wale-Wale and Bawku: in the North-Western Province, Wa, Gurupisi, Jasa and Wahabu.

A Mohammedan Priest resident at Navarro, in the North-Eastern Province, is reported to have made no headway at all, and has so far not succeeded in making a single convert.

68. Although the Pagan portions of the population show no great desire, as a whole, to abandon their form of belief, they exhibit no sort of resentment towards the members of other denominations. The belief of the heathen portion of the native community is a primordial animism. Each town or village has its own "fetish" which is usually to be found at the entrance to the Chief's or Priest's compound, and takes various forms, such as a conical pile of earth, or a three pronged stick, supporting a pot in which grows a shrub, grass, or an aquatic plant. These represent the "fetish" itself, which is recognised in many forms, as lightning, a lion, hawk, crocodile, snake, tortoise, or other animal, bird or reptile. Such "fetishes" guard and watch over the general welfare of the villages and it's inhabitants and communicate with the latter through their priests. When offended, these "fetishes" are propitiated by the sacrifice of sheep or goats, and of black cats or dogs.

Every family has its own "fetish," usually a conical heap of clay with a small pot sunk in it's apex. It is to be seen outside every compound, and is consulted on all matters relating to the welfare of the family. Sacrifices are made to it by killing fowls over it, and allowing their blood to run into the pot and over it's support; the birds' feathers then being stuck on before the blood congeals.

The "Lightning Fetish" is the most dreaded, and is universally invoked to revenge theft. No Native would dream of attempting to arrest a conflagration by lightning. The veneration of ancestors also forms part of the native religious belief, and their shades are consulted through the family fetish.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

69. Our cordial relations with our French neighbour and Ally were fully maintained. Visits were exchanged between the District Commissioner Navarro in the North-Eastern Province and the Resident at Po. The Acting Provincial Commissioner North-Western Province met the Officer Commanding the Circle de Lobi, when an agreement, afterwards ratified by the respective Governments, was arrived at whereby the French Administration was permitted to establish two steel rope Ferries on the Black Volta River near Lorha. The Acting District Commissioner Tumu also visited the French Resident at Leo.

70. A Political Officer was stationed at Yendi, the capital of Togoland-Dagomba, throughout the year.

Administration.

71. Major B. Moutray-Read administered the Protectorate from the commencement of the year until the return of the Chief Commissioner from leave of absence in April, and from the beginning of December until the end of the year.

72. The Protectorate suffered a great loss by the death from Yellow Fever at Gambaga on the 30th October of Captain H. T. C. Wheeler, Travelling Commissioner. Captain Wheeler was attached to the Gold Coast Regiment, West African Frontier Force, as a Lieutenant of Infantry in 1902 and was transferred to the Political Service as Assistant District Commissioner Northern Territories in 1907. He was confirmed in his appointment as District Commissioner in 1910 and was promoted Travelling Commissioner in 1914.

73. The difficulty of keeping open the various Stations that was experienced in 1915 owing to the number of Administrative Officers who were either seconded for Military Service or were requisitioned for Service in other parts of the Colony was accentuated during the year under review by the withdrawal of Medical Officers who had hitherto willingly performed the duties of District Commissioner in addition to their own, but, to a certain extent, was overcome by extending the tours of service of the Administrative Staff and by aid of Officers lent from other Departments. As it was, the Bawku District remained without a Commissioner and was administered from Gambaga from the end of February until the beginning of October, and the Zouaragu and Yeji Districts, (administered by the District Commissioners Navarro and Salaga respectively), throughout the year.

Native Affairs.

74. The relations between the Administration and the Chiefs and people of the Southern and North-Western Provinces left nothing to be desired, but in the North-Eastern Province a series of unfortunate events brought the natives into direct conflict with the Administration.

75. The following, which appeared in the Annual Report on this Protectorate for 1915, is equally applicable to the year under review.

> "The attitude of the Natives, during the many changes and "withdrawals of Administrative Officers necessitated by the War, "was generally exemplary. The one danger spot that exists is in the "neighbourhood of the imaginary line running East and West that "constitutes the boundary between the Protectorate and French "Territory. This, in many cases, bisects villages whose inhabitants "find themselves in French Territory in the Northern portion and in "British in the Southern. Under such conditions local fights and con "stant disturbances must be anticipated."

76. In the Northern Districts of the Protectorate, where many of the natives live and die within sight of their compounds and where the old men and heads of compounds still resent the restored authority of their Chiefs and are re-actionary to a man, the news of the withdrawal of a Commissioner from a District is interpreted as meaning that the whiteman is leaving the Country and that the old days of lawlessness and licence are about to return. The elders inflame the passions of the youth of the country by tales of their fighting prowess in the old days, and compare the visits, however frequent, of a Commissioner from a neighbouring District to those of a Hausa Trader—" here to-day and gone tomorrow." The authority of the Chiefs is openly flouted and the most trivial incident may arouse all the savagery lying dormant in the hitherto tractable aboriginal.

77. In April a dispute as to ownership of Farm Land arose between two families living at Bongo and Lungu, villages situated some two and a half hours march North of Zouaragu. From mutual abuse and stone-throwing, the contestants had recourse to bows and arrows and, with their numbers swelled by the young men of either faction, a serious fight was soon in progress. The Chief of Bongo rode to the scene of the disturbance and with great gallantry attempted to stop the fighting, but by this time the young men were quite out of hand, and he rode into Zouaragu for assistance. He returned with two Constables and again tried to restore peace, but received an arrow in the heel. Messengers were sent to the District Commissioner at Navarro, who despatched a reliable Corporal and two Constables. Unfortunately the Lungu faction had already raised the War Cry and had been joined by the young men of the surrounding villages who were " spoiling " for a fight, and the Corporal and his men arrived at the moment when the combined forces were about to attack Bongo. The Corporal, who was well-known to the natives, rode among the rioters and endeavoured to restore order but was fired on and hit by a poisoned arrow from the effects of which he died a few hours later, and one of the Constables was wounded. Bongo was attacked and burnt and it's inhabitants were driven into the neighbouring hills.

78. On the arrival of the Commissioner at Bongo, the ringleaders fled to French Territory and further fighting ceased for the time, but in June the action of a Sergeant, who met his death in an endeavour to arrest one of the ringleaders who had returned to his village, revived the unrest which threatened to spread to the Bawku District, where a Constable on road duty had been murdered. In fact the situation appeared to be so serious that reinforcements were despatched from Tamale. On their arrival at Zouaragu the Commissioner, finding that the natives were now openly defiant and refused to submit, patrolled the Country in the neighbourhood of Bongo and after two days operations, during which the natives resisted his advance, effectually put an end to further resistance, and received the submission of all but the ringleaders, who again retired to French Territory, at Bongo. Eventually the eight leading spirits of the revolt were arrested and tried. Six suffered the extreme penalty of the law and two died in Prison. It is interesting to note that when Bongo village was attacked and burnt the Government Rest House remained untouched, and that it was only when the Commissioner attempted to arrest

their cowardly ringleaders that the natives resisted the authority of the Government, for the shooting of the Corporal must be attributed more to accident than design. During the course of an Enquiry that was held subsequently on the spot it was proved beyond doubt that the old men were responsible for the trouble, for they had so played upon the feelings of the young men by their constant jeers at what they were pleased to term their effeminacy in submitting to their Chiefs' authority, that the latter were only awaiting the first opportunity that offered itself to show their "manhood" by fighting and had secretly prepared large stores of poisoned arrows, far in excess of their normal requirements as hunters, for that purpose.

79. The evidence given by the Chief of Zouaragu during the Enquiry is so illuminating and expressive of local native thought and feeling in the District that it is worthy of record :—

> "All I can say is that while we had a Commissioner at Zouaragu "nothing of this sort of thing that recently happened was heard of. "Before I was made a Chief, the people around here used to say—"When "the Whiteman goes away, we will teach the Chiefs some sense." "When the District Commissioner was removed from Zouaragu the "Bongo people started shouting. Recently I got word from the Chief "of Bongo that his people were starting to fight. My opinion is that "it is only because there has been no Whiteman stationed in Zouaragu "that the people have started to go against their Chiefs. The people "would not look to the Whiteman who only travelled from another "District. They said it was like a trader coming and going and no one "would take notice of travelling strangers. I am sure that the people "were not against the Whiteman. It was only that one was not "resident at Zouaragu and they thought they could not be punished "if they did wrong. They disobeyed the Chiefs when the latter had not "the direct support of a Commissioner. What the Chief Commissioner "said was true. The old men have misled the youngmen recently. "The old men don't care."

Roads.

80. The Commissioner of the North-Eastern Province reports that all roads were kept in good repair in spite of the exceptionally heavy rains that cut up the surfaces and considerably damaged them.

81. All existing roads in the North-Western Province were kept cleared and in good repair, but were much damaged by rain.

82. In the Southern Province, the Yeji-Prang road has been well maintained and is in good order. Exceptionally heavy floods were experienced in September and October, which washed away much of the high embankments at both ends of the Yeji-Makongo road. Considerable portions of the road were under water and erosion and settlement reduced the height of some of the

banking by four feet, thus leaving the bridges " in the air." Great damage was also caused to the wing walls of all the four long bridges. Repairs were effectively carried out on the Makongo end of the road, but this cannot be done with regard to the bridges and high embankments without the expenditure of a considerable sum of money.

83. The construction of the Salaga-Makongo road was completed and included the erection of three bridges with cement pointed stone wing walls. Considerable damage was caused in September to this road by floods, but this was repaired by the end of the year.

84. Stone arched culverts have replaced the wooden ones on the Tamale-Yapei road and a light car could now be used on the 28 miles of road connecting Tamale with the White Volta River.

85. A rough survey was made between Tamale and Salaga with the object of finding out if the existing road could not be replaced by one less liable to be flooded during the rainy season.

86. Very great damage is done to road surfaces throughout the Protectorate by travelling stock and caravans which make use of the roads free of charge, and it is hoped shortly to restrict cattle caravans to the use of one or two routes along which caravanserais will be built and an adequate water supply provided.

Rest Houses.

87. Excellent Rest-Houses have been built in 102 villages in the North-Eastern Province, 83 in the North-Western Province, and 78 in the Southern Province and are kept in repair by the Chiefs. They are usually of the " Round-House " type, with conical thatched roofs, and stand in large compounds often surrounded by thick " swish " walls.

Ferries.

88. Two Ferries under Government control and at which tolls are collected are situated on the Volta River at Yeji and the Dakar River at it's confluence with the Volta River.

The tolls for the year at the Yeji Ferry amounted to £1,617 1s. 0d. as compared with £1,516 0s. 3d. in 1915.

The Dakar Ferry was taken over from the Preventive Service in September, but owing to the heavy floods it was not made use of until late in November and only £14 was taken in tolls during the last three months of the year.

89. Steel Pontoons have been placed on the Yeji Ferry and at Ferries on the Pru River at Prang: on the Yamalaga River on the main road to Tamale: on the Nabugu and Nasia Rivers on the Tamale-Gambaga Road and at Adere on the Black Volta River on the Kintampo-Bole Road, in the Southern Province. The Steel Pontoons on the Yeji Ferry are practically worn out and two large native dug-outs have taken their place.

A Steel Pontoon is in use at a Ferry on the White Volta where the main Nasia-Navarro Road crosses it in the North-Eastern Province.

90. Two Cable Ferries, constructed and maintained by the French—Administration free of all tolls, are situated on the Black Volta River at the Baghari-Manoa and Metor-Dapola crossings near Lorha.

91. Many other Ferries are in use on all the Volta Rivers—Black, Red and White—and some of their Tributaries and are worked by the local Chiefs.

Transport.

92. Government stores are despatched by Motor Lorries to Ejura from Coomassie, thence to Yeji by carrier transport and by the Volta River in Canoes to Yapei, or, alternatively, by carrier transport to Salaga and Tamale.

No Permanent gangs are employed in the Protectorate for transport. The number of loads received at Yeji was 2,408, of which 1,365 were transported by canoe to Yapei. Local carriers are paid at the rate of 6d. per diem.

Public Works.

93. The following Public Works were carried out during the year:—

Southern Province.

Tamale ..	One Type 'B' Bungalow completed. One Type 'A' Bungalow completed. Thirty Stables for the Northern Territories Constabulary completed. Addition to Chief Commissioner's Clerks' Office completed.
Salaga ..	The District Commissioner's Bungalow completed. The Native Hospital and Dispensary completed. Guard Room and Specie Vault completed.
Bole ..	New Prison containing six cells completed.

North-Eastern Province.

Gambaga	The Provincial Commissioner's Bungalow, all outhouses, the Court House, Offices and Store Rooms, were destroyed by fire after the Acting Provincial Commissioner's death from Yellow Fever, and the building of a new Bungalow on another, and a better, site was commenced. New Stables for Constabulary completed.

Zouaragu The Fort was thoroughly repaired.

Navarro .. New Constabulary lines completed.

North-Western Province.

Wa .. School House and Teachers quarters completed.
Constabulary lines and Stables completed.
Re-roofing with sawn timber and cement of the Specie and Ammunition Vault completed.

Lorha .. Prison rebuilt.
New Caravanserai completed.

Entomological Research Commission.

94. Doctor J. J. Simpson of the West Africa Entomological Research Commission, (Colonial Office), carried out research work during the whole year at Yapei and in the surrounding country.

Geological Survey.

95. The Geological Survey Party spent over two months in the Protectorate travelling from Buipe to Tamale thence to Wa and Bole and back to Ashanti. An interesting report on the results of their work has been written. The party did not visit the hilly portions of the country to the North.

Immigration and Emigration.

96. A few Fulanis arrive from time to time to settle in the Northern portions of the Protectorate, where they take charge of the herds of Cattle belonging to the local natives. Beyond this there is but little immigration to record.

97. There is a migratory period every year towards Coomassie commencing about the end of August. A considerable number of boys then go down to find work, but in course of time most of these find their way back to their Country, many returning in April or May. Gangs of boys are usually conducted by a native who has been to Coomassie before and their members each carry with them a scanty supply of food and little else.

98. The Commissioner of the North-Western Province reports that 1,473 Dagartis and Lobis passed through Wa on their way to Ashanti during the months of August, September, October and November, as compared with 1,231 natives who travelled South through Wa during the months of September, October and November in 1915.

Labour.

99. Unskilled labour at the rate of 6d. per diem is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain ; nor can this be wondered at when so many of the natives have realized that, by going to Coomassie, they can readily obtain from 1/- to 2/- per diem for their services. All skilled labour is obtained from the Colony or Ashanti at a daily rate of from 1/9 to 3/6.

Suitability of Climate for Europeans and openings for White Labour.

100. The Climate of the Northern Territories, while similar to that of the Gold Coast and Ashanti, may be said in comparison with them to be more trying in it's extremes. It possesses an insidious quality that lowers the vitality of Europeans and renders unduly prolonged residence on their part inadvisable, and it is generally recognised that a period of recuperation in a more bracing and salubrious climate is necessary after a year's stay in the country. Innumerable insects—creeping and flying—are a source of irritation, especially at evening time and after dark.

There are no openings at present for White labour.

C. H. ARMITAGE,

Chief Commissioner, Northern Territories.

Tamale,
17th September, 1917.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 970.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1917.

(For Report for 1916 see No. 956.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

October, 1918.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

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1918.

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No. 970.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR 1917.

I.—FINANCIAL.

1. Conditions, such as have obtained since the abolition of the Caravan Tolls in 1908, remained normal during the year under review and will so continue until the inauguration of some system of cheap transport generates the latent industries of the country that now lie dormant.

2. Trade roads, which are maintained at considerable expense, and by the employment of a large amount of labour, are made use of by the numerous caravans, that travel free of all charges, southward to Ashanti and northward to French Territory.

3. Customs receipts for goods imported into the Protectorate, and the profits made by the Gold Coast Government Railway from the transport of live-stock and goods that arrive at Coomassie from, or through, the Northern Territories, are credited to the general revenue of the Colony, as is the *ad valorem* duty on the purchases made by native traders, who return from Coomassie with goods representing the proceeds of their sales.

4. Ashanti and, to a lesser degree, the Colony are indebted to this Protectorate for the large amount of native labour with which it supplies them, and to which, in a great measure, the cocoa and mining industries owe their success. In addition to this, many recruits were enlisted for the Gold Coast Regiment during the year. In fact the exodus from the country of its young male population has been so great as to call forth protests from the local Chiefs, who complain that they have thus been deprived of sufficient labour with which to farm their lands. This may prove to be a blessing in disguise, for, with the return of the young men to their homes, a broader and more enlightened outlook will be disseminated throughout the country, whose inhabitants have, until within the last decade, led an isolated and lethargic existence, but it is to be feared that many of these young emigrants abandon the country of their birth and make new homes for themselves in the Colony and Ashanti.

5. The reduction of the political and medical staffs of the Protectorate owing to the exigencies of the war has effected a considerable saving in expenditure this year.

6. The nickel coinage of three denominations—one penny, one halfpenny and one tenth of a penny—introduced into the Protectorate in June 1913, continues to be popular, but the Commissioners report that the natives have commenced to melt down this coinage in order to transform it into articles of adornment; a practice only too common with regard to our silver currency.

The supply of nickel coinage, which, since its inception, has not been provided in sufficient quantities to banish original native currency (the cowrie), from the markets, has now ceased as a result of the War.

(C499) Wt.11/42. 1000 & 90. 10.18. B.&F.Ltd., Gp.11/2.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

7. No figures, that would give an accurate estimate of the volume of trade entering and leaving the country, are available. Trade statistics are kept at stations situated on the main trade routes, but as the registration of live-stock and trade goods is voluntary, and as many caravans—especially those composed of live-stock—pass through the stations during the night, the figures given can be looked on only as an indication of a general increase or decrease in trade, as the case may be. The trade routes from the north through Daboya to Kintampo, and others of minor importance, do not pass through any stations where statistics can be collected, nor are such compiled at Kintampo in Ashanti.

8. The volume of trade that passed northward and southward through the Protectorate would not appear to have been adversely affected by the Great War; in fact a study of the available figures under all heads, i.e., "Animals, donkey, and carrier loads" for the year under review shows an increase of some 16,500 over those of the previous year.

9. Imports consist generally of cotton and woollen goods, silk headkerchiefs and lengths, hardware, haberdashery, beads, brass rods, tobacco, tinned provisions, and kola nuts from Ashanti. The bulk of this trade, which showed a general increase, especially in kola, passes into French Territory.

10. In spite of outbreaks of rinderpest and anthrax among the herds owned by natives of the north-eastern and north-western provinces and in Haut Senegal Niger, which in many cases carried off over 50 per cent. of the cattle, the number of beasts that passed through the Protectorate into Ashanti and the Colony compared favourably with that of the preceding year. 36,904 cattle are reported to have been driven down through the north-eastern, 24,060 through the north-western, and 18,081 through the southern Provinces. The large breed, known as "Moshi Cattle," and possessing a dorsal hump, is purchased in French country and forms the vast majority of the cattle that pass south through the country, but a few herds of the "Dagomba" type of cattle, bred in the Protectorate, have been driven to Coomassie, where good prices were realized for them.

The epizootic diseases referred to above are endemic in the Northern Territories and prevent the establishment of a staple cattle industry in the Protectorate.

11. The number of sheep and goats, most of which are bred in the country, that were driven south during the year exceeded by some 7,000 that of the previous year. Many crate-loads of fowls were carried down to Ashanti.

12. The salt industry, which is in the hands of the Addah traders, remained normal. On their return journey from Tamale port, which is situated on the White Volta river two days east of Tamale, the salt traders load their canoes with fowls, shea butter, native cloth, and a considerable number of horns of the bush cow and of various species of antelope shot by the natives, which are reported to command a ready sale on the coast.

13. An increasingly large number of loads of hides, and of dried fish from the Niger river, were carried south through the Protectorate.

Fish, caught in the Volta river and sun-dried, are exported to Ashanti and the coast, but this industry is in the hands of the Bator tribe, who come up the river and encamp on its banks during the fishing season.

14. The export of local products to Ashanti and the Colony—shea butter, extracted from the fruit of *Butyrospermum Parkii*, "Dawa Dawa," a food prepared from the seeds and flour-like substance contained in the pods of the locust bean (*Parkia filicoidea*), and ground nuts (*Arachis hypogoea*)—show but a slight increase on that of the previous year, and it may be said that, taken as a whole, trade in the Northern Territories has fully maintained the standard set by previous years.

Agriculture.

15. The rainfall may be described as abnormal, but was very unevenly distributed, with the result that, while in some districts the natives were holding customs to celebrate a good harvest, in others they were deploring the scant crops that they had reaped.

16. Several varieties of beans, ground nuts, guinea corn, maize, millet, and rice are grown everywhere throughout the Protectorate, while yams are the favourite crop in the Southern, and southern portions of the North-Eastern and North-Western Provinces, but are gradually working their way north. Cotton and tobacco are grown in large quantities for local consumption.

The Commissioner of the North-Western Province reports that the Lobi and Grunshi tribes have developed a liking for tomatoes which are now cultivated in most of their villages.

Agricultural Station Tamale.

17. During the 1916–17 season 43 acres were under annual, and 48 acres under perennial, crops, while 9 acres remained fallow.

The annual crops consisted of 25½ acres of cotton which gave average results above the previous season's crops. The manured plot again gave superior results to the unmanured plot.

17½ acres were planted up with various leguminous crops, yams, hibiscus fibre, &c. Ashanti maize, guinea corn, millet, and Fra Fra potatoes were not a success. Some wheat seed received from Nigeria was sown, but proved a failure, this being due to too late planting and, possibly, to soil-poverty.

An experiment in extracting sisal hemp, by prison labour, did not give favourable economic results, but the fibre was good and strong.

The timber tree sections continue to be unsatisfactory, with the exception of the teak plants, which are doing well. Teak seeds were again distributed to all stations.

Fruit trees, consisting principally of mango, cashew, guava, lime, and lemons fruited during the year. Grape fruit and sweet orange trees suffer exceedingly during the dry weather.

The mole crickets that infest the station become a great pest in the dry season and a considerable amount of labour is expended in keeping them within bounds.

Stock Farm.

18. The herd which, at the beginning of the year, consisted of but 9 cows, 2 bulls, and 1 ox—all that remained out of the herd of 61 head that was attacked by cattle plague in 1916—was increased

during the year to 21 cows, 2 bulls, 1 ox, and 11 calves (8 male, 3 female). No disease occurred among this herd during the year. The curator notes that the births of male calves are much in excess of those of females.

INDUSTRIES.

19. Apart from agriculture, native industries are confined to the production of articles of local use and wear. Serviceable cloths are woven from native cotton yarn, and pottery, baskets, mats, rope, saddlery, and leather goods, brass ornaments, and iron hoes and axe-heads are manufactured, with other small articles necessary for the wants of a primitive people.

20. The dyeing of native cloths and cotton goods and the smelting of iron from the ore give employment to natives in various parts of the Protectorate, and salt is produced by evaporation at Daboya. Gunpowder is manufactured in small quantities in Grunshi, but does not possess a high point of ignition.

Minerals.

21. Gold bearing quartz and alluvial deposits have been found in the neighbourhood of Wa and in the Bole district, where they are worked by Ashantis, and a certain amount of prospecting was carried out in the Dependency in 1902 and succeeding years, but lack of transport facilities debarred the undertaking of mining operations on a large scale, and such mining concessions as were acquired have lapsed.

22. The geological survey, which visited the Northern Territories in 1916 and reported on a large area of the country, undertook no further research work during the year under review.

III.—LEGISLATION.

23. Two Ordinances applicable to the Northern Territories were enacted by the Governor.

IV.—EDUCATION.

24. There was an average daily attendance of 61, as compared with 65 in 1916, at the Government primary school at Tamale, but four pupils attended the training college for teachers at Accra, and a fifth left Tamale to enter the college towards the end of the year. Four pupils were employed at the Agricultural Station and one at the Post Office as learners. The pupils, with the exception of some 20 children, the sons and daughters of clerks and coast natives, are Dagombas.

The annual examination was held in November when 67 pupils attended. The results were most satisfactory and two pupils obtained Standard VII certificates. The school was closed for the Christmas holidays on the 9th November.

25. The Office and Ginnery buildings, purchased from the British Cotton Growing Association, were converted into school houses and are a great improvement on the old school premises, as they allow of a separate building for each of the three teachers.

26. The average daily attendance at the Gambaga school was 37, or an increase of one over the previous year. This may be considered satisfactory, for the Chiefs residing at a distance from Gambaga exhibit a marked reluctance to send their children to school.

27. A Government primary school was opened at Wa in the North-western Province in April and had an attendance of 40 at the end of the year. Several of the leading Mohammedans sent their children to the school.

28. The Roman Catholic mission school (Pères Blancs), remained closed throughout the year owing to lack of funds.

29. Malams, who are to be found wherever Mohammedans reside, instruct the children to read and write Hausa in Arabic characters, and in learning by heart passages from the Koran.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

30. In addition to those Government institutions which are mentioned under the heads of "Education" and "Judicial Statistics," there are Government native hospitals established at Tamale, Salaga, and Bole in the Southern Province; at Wa, Tumu, and Lorha in the North-Western, and at Gambago, Zouaragu, and Bawku in the North-Eastern Provinces. The first two hospitals mentioned are permanent buildings constructed by the Public Works Department; the others are built of "Swish," or sun-baked bricks and are thatch roofed, but little, if any, advantage is taken of them by the natives where Medical Officers are not in residence. The following table shows the number of native cases treated during the year:—

Hospital.	In-patients.	Out-patients.	Remarks.
Tamale ..	168	3,604	Operations under anaesthetic, 20 Deaths in Hospital, 9
Salaga ..	2	759	
Gambaga .	5	605	Operations under anaesthetic, 2 Death in Hospital, 1
Wa ..	3	437	

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Northern Territories Constabulary.

31. In spite of the facts that the Outstation Detachments of the Northern Territories Constabulary were not visited, or inspected, by one of their own officers during the year, and that the men were put through their musketry courses by the political officers in charge, the general efficiency and shooting of the force was maintained. The discipline of the force left nothing to be desired.

32. In February a Northern Territories volunteer service Company of the Northern Territories Constabulary left Tamale, with the newly appointed Commandant, Captain Dale-Glossop, for service in East Africa. It was, however, recalled from Coomassie on account of the Bole disturbances, referred to under head X "General Observations—Native Affairs," and was disbanded at Bole.

33. Non-Commissioned officers and men of the force formed the nucleus staff of the training centre that was established at Tamale n October.

PRISON.

34. The central prison at Tamale is in charge of the Provincial Medical Officer and a native keeper of prisons, with the following staff:—One senior warder, one second-class warder, and an average number of sixteen temporary warders.

35. All prisoners sentenced to six months' imprisonment and over undergo their terms of imprisonment in this prison, where a stricter discipline than is possible at outstations is maintained.

36. The total number of prisoners admitted during the year was one hundred and fifty-three with a daily average number of 75 convicts. Of these, six escaped while at work outside the prison, and three were recaptured.

37. Nine executions for murder were carried out. There were seven deaths in the prison. The general health of the convicts, who were employed chiefly in sanitary work, water carrying, repairing roads, streets, and culverts, and sinking wells, was good.

38. Prisoners' rations are purchased in the market by the keeper of prisons, but a prison farm supplied a large quantity of foodstuffs which were grown by the prisoners and bought for use in the prison, where the meals are prepared. Three meals per diem, good in quality and quantity, were provided for prisoners at a cost of a fraction under 2¼*d.* for each man.

39. There are gaols at Yeji, Salaga, Bole, Wa, Lorha, Tumu, Navarro, Zouaragu, Gambaga, and Bawku, where prisoners, whose sentences are less than six months' imprisonment, are confined. These prisoners are employed as at Tamale.

40. Summary jurisdiction obtains in the Northern Territories. The Chief Commissioner presiding in Court has full powers and jurisdiction in the Protectorate as a Judge of the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony, and, as far as it is practicable and local circumstances permit, the procedure in this Court, Civil and Criminal, is the same as that in the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony. Provincial Commissioners hear and determine all criminal offences, punishable by a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds or imprisonment for twelve months; District Commissioners by a fine not exceeding fifty pounds or imprisonment for six months.

41. The civil jurisdiction of Provincial Commissioners and District Commissioners is limited to suits in which the claims do not exceed three hundred pounds and fifty pounds respectively.

42. Every encouragement has been given to the Chiefs to exercise their authority; to hear and determine cases relating to native property, marriage, and other civil actions and to uphold native laws and customs so long as they are not opposed to our ideas of justice and equity. Few appeals from decisions of the Chiefs are made to the Commissioners' Courts, and, as a rule, local authority is exercised with the greatest moderation.

43. In the Southern Province the number of convictions obtained was 188, as compared with 147 in 1916. 110 of these cases, however, represented offences against Health Acts and there was no prevalence of crime of a serious nature.

44. One hundred and eighteen convictions were obtained in the North Eastern Province, where there was a considerable decrease in crime. Only two natives were committed for trial in the Chief

Commissioner's Court. Theft of live-stock is the most prevalent form of crime in this Protectorate.

45. There were but 96 convictions in the North-Western Province and, of these, 49 were for offences against the Health Acts. Four cases of homicide occurred in the Lorha District, but apart from these there was a marked absence of serious crime throughout the Province.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

46. One European official died at Coomassie when on his way to the Coast on leave of absence. Three officers were invalided—one for dislocation of shoulder and one for neuritis—and the names of twenty-seven appeared on the sick list during the year.

47. There were no deaths or invalidings among the native officials and only five entries occur in the sick report.

Native Population.

48. The census, completed in 1911, gave an estimated population of 361,806 to the Northern Territories, with a computed area of 31,100 square miles; an average of 11·6 persons to the square mile. The census returns for the Southern and North-Western Provinces were considered to be fairly accurate, but those of the North-Eastern Province fell far short of being correct, and it is estimated that not more than two-thirds of the inhabitants were enumerated. Systematic work continues to be carried on in order to render the next census returns reliable in every respect, and Commissioners have been provided with census books in which the names of all villages are entered and a classified register of their inhabitants kept up to date. In spite of the heavy infant mortality it is considered that the population at the present day is greatly in excess of that shown in the last census returns.

49. An outbreak of small pox occurred in the North-Western Province in December, 1916, and continued into the year under review. Some men of the Northern Territories Constabulary, with their families, were allowed to come to Tamale from the infected area, with the result that ten cases of smallpox with three deaths occurred. The disease also spread from Wa to Bole but, in each case, the outbreak was quickly suppressed.

Smallpox again broke out in the North-Western Province in November 1916, and it is thought that the natives spread the disease by vaccinating themselves from infected cases. A native vaccinator was despatched to the infected area.

50. In spite of repeated warnings a number of fatal cases of anthrax occur annually among the natives, due to their ineradicable propensity to eat the meat of cattle that have died from that disease.

51. Leprosy is not on the increase and, while uncommon in the Southern and North-Western Provinces, is of more frequent occurrence in the North-Eastern Province. The natives look upon it as "a visitation of Allah," but say that it shows no signs of spreading and are generally averse to compulsory isolation.

Water Supply.

52. The Provincial Medical Officer reports that the water supply at Tamale is not yet satisfactory and that the wells made recently in the neighbourhood of the town appear to be unable to withstand

more than one rainy season, but silt up. Given the money and material a permanent and adequate water supply could be assured by the adoption of the methods advocated by the Director of Geological Survey in his report on the Tamale Water Supply but, until these are forthcoming, the Tamale Water Supply will remain quite inadequate. The Provincial Medical Officer considers that much of the disease among the native population is caused by the poor water supply.

53. On the night of the 10th September the dam, which had been constructed across a valley in the neighbourhood of Tamale by voluntary native labour and had retained a valuable supply of water, suddenly burst, as the result of a rainfall of over six inches, and released a vast volume of water that flooded the surrounding country and did a great deal of damage to the farms. The total loss of this water supply was keenly felt by the natives towards the end of the year, and it has been decided to reconstruct the dam in such a manner as to insure against a repetition of the mishap.

54. The Commissioners of the North-Eastern and North-Western Provinces report that the water supply is good at all stations in their respective Provinces.

Meteorological Observations.

55. The rainfall during the year as recorded at Tamale was 55·76 inches, or 9·19 inches over that of 1916. At Salaga a rainfall of 66·94 inches was recorded; at Gambaga, 53·55 inches, and at Wa, 48·97 inches.

VIII.—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

56. Post and telegraph offices are established at Tamale, Salaga, and Yeji.

57. Owing to the shortage of qualified operators, the telegraph line between Kintampo, Bole, and Wa would have been closed had not the Commisioner's Clerks learnt the Morse code and acted as operators. Communication is maintained between Tamale and Gambaga along the telegraph line by means of a telephone attachment.

58. Letters are received and despatched from all stations and the Commissioners have stamps for sale.

59. An arrangement whereby the Salaga headman of the Hausa professional carriers contracted to take over the conveyance of all mails to and from Tamale continued to work well and has removed a genuine grievance that existed among the local natives, who previously had been called upon at a moment's notice to supply carriers for the mails. A similar arrangement made with the Chief of Yeji for the transport of mails to, and from, Salaga has proved equally successful. The services of eight permanent postmen employed in carrying mails to Wa and the North were dispensed with and the Chief of Tamale entered into a contract to undertake their work.

IX.—RELIGION.

60. On this subject there is nothing to add to the account given in last year's Report.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

61. Our relations with our French neighbour and ally continued throughout the year to be of a most cordial character. The Acting Provincial Commissioner, North-Western Province, and the District Commissioner, Tumu, paid visits to the Resident at Leo, and the Commandant at Gaoua visited Lorha. Visits were also exchanged between the Resident, Leo, and the District Commissioner, Navarro-Zouaragu, and between the Resident, Tenkadugu, and the District Commissioner, Bawku.

62. A political officer was stationed at Yendi, the capital of Togoland Dagomba, throughout the year.

Administration.

63. Major B. Moutray-Read administered the Protectorate from the commencement of the year until the return of the Chief Commissioner from leave of absence at the end of May, but, owing to the latter being called into Accra in connection with the Bole disturbances, it was not until the 2nd July that he arrived at Tamale.

64. Captain T. W. Breckenridge contracted yellow fever when travelling down to the coast to proceed on leave of absence and died in the hospital at Coomassie on the 27th November 1917. His untimely death has deprived this Administration of the services of an officer who worked wholeheartedly in the interests of his Province and its inhabitants, and has been keenly felt by his colleagues and by the natives with whom he came in contact, who liked and respected him. Captain Breckenridge was appointed a Temporary Supervisor of Customs in June 1902, but acted as a Commissioner in the Asafu and Sefwhi Districts from October in that year until he was appointed a travelling Commissioner in May 1907. In January 1910, he was transferred to Ashanti and served in that Protectorate until May, 1914, when he was promoted to a Provincial Commissionership in the Northern Territories, which appointment he held at the time of his death.

65. The difficulty, first experienced in the year 1915, of keeping open the various stations owing to the number of Administrative Officers who were either seconded for Military Service or were requisitioned for service in other parts of the Colony, was accentuated in 1916 by the withdrawal from the Protectorate of Medical Officers who had hitherto willingly performed the duties of District Commissioner in addition to their own, as occasion arose, and continued during the year under review, but was overcome to a certain extent by extending the tours of service of the Administrative staff and by aid of officers lent from other Departments. The Yeji and Zouaragu Districts were administered by the Commissioners of the Salaga and Navarro Districts respectively throughout the year.

Native Affairs.

66. The cordial relations existing between the Administration and the Chiefs and people of the Protectorate were marred by a series of regrettable incidents that occurred in the Bole District of the Southern Province in February and March, which, at the time, were generally, but erroneously, believed to represent an organised rising against the Government. The position was eventually regularized without bloodshed.

67. By the death, on the 5th August, of Bukare, Paramount Chief of British Dagomba, the Administration lost one of its most loyal and trusted Chiefs. Bukare, who had been driven from Togoland by the Germans, was given the Karaga Stool by the King of Yendi before the arbitrary boundary fixed between Togoland and the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast placed Yendi and a considerable portion of Eastern Dagomba under German control. Bukare at first resisted, with some success, the British occupation of Dagomba, but, having convinced himself of our good intentions, he gave us every assistance and severed all relations with Yendi—an act which brought him into odium with those Dagombas who could not understand why their country had been dismembered. He, however, maintained his authority over his subjects and his unswerving loyalty to the British Government up to the time of his death.

68. Internecine fighting between the Konkomba natives inhabiting the country on the right and left banks of the Oti River, and situated respectively in the British and French spheres of influence in Togoland, broke out early in the year but was quickly suppressed by the joint action of the English and French Commissioners.

Recruiting.

69. The Acting Chief Commissioner visited Wa in April and addressed an appeal to the Chiefs and people of the Province for recruits, which met with no response. The Dagomba Chiefs, however, brought forward a number of recruits who were drafted to Coomassie.

70. The Chief Commissioner opened a recruiting campaign in the North-Eastern Province in July, when a considerable number of recruits were promised by the Chiefs and a portion of these actually collected and despatched to Coomassie. Unfortunately the time of year was against recruiting, for the crops were coming up and the heavy rains, that flooded the rivers and surrounding country, had set in. These factors were accountable for the wholesale desertions that occurred on the road, and it was recognised that it was unfair to expect untutored and practically naked savages to march over three hundred miles to Coomassie in such conditions. The recruiting campaign was, therefore, closed down for the time being and it was wisely decided to establish a training centre at Tamale, where recruits might become used to their surroundings and to the change in diet which, of necessity, they would have to experience, for the food of the up-country native consists principally of millet and maize; no plantains or yams finding a place in his regimen. Further, they would become accustomed to wearing uniform and would no longer have to march through Ashanti in a state of semi-nudity that subjected them to the ridicule of the local inhabitants.

Roads.

71. In the Tamale District of the Southern Province no new roads were constructed. The abnormal rains destroyed many of the main roads and nearly all the bridges and culverts were washed away. In the Salaga District the new road under course of construction from Salaga to Tamale made good progress and was nearing Dogunkade ten miles north of Salaga, at the end of the year. The newly constructed road from Yeji to Makongo was ruined and much labour under skilled supervision will be required to restore it to its original condition. In the Yeji District the road from Prang to Yeji suffered similarly,

but the bridges that were carried away have been replaced. A Provincial engineer travelled during the rainy season from Tamale along the proposed new route for a road from Salaga to Tamale and found it to be as badly flooded as was the present road.

72. The roads in the North-Eastern and North-Western Provinces were badly cut up by the heavy rains. In addition, the cattle driven down through these Provinces do a considerable amount of damage to the roads. In the former Province several new roads were constructed in the Zouaragu District, and one, tapping all the frontier villages from Paga to Sirigu, in the Navarro District, in the latter. about 29 miles of new road through Konkuri, Kokolubo and Gegenpe in the Lorha District.

Rest Houses.

73. There are 71 rest houses situated in the Southern, 107 in the North-Eastern and 86 in the North-Western, Province. They are usually of the "Round House" type, with conical thatched roof, and stand in large compounds surrounded, in most cases, by thick "swish" walls. Their repair and up-keep is in the hands of the Chiefs.

Ferries.

74. Two ferries under Government control and at which tolls are collected are situated on the Volta River at Yeji and the Dakar River at its confluence with the Volta. The tolls for the year at Yeji Ferry amounted to £1,558 3*s.* 9*d.* as compared to £1,603 0*s.* 3*d.* in 1916. The slight decrease is due to the abnormal rainy season that was experienced.

The Dakar River Ferry was closed temporarily during the month of September as no Toll collector was available. The takings up to the end of June amounted to £206 7*s.* 0*d.*

75. Steel pontoons have been placed on the Yeji Ferry and at ferries on the Pru River at Prang; on the Yamalaga River on the main road to Tamale; on the Nabugu and Nasia Rivers on the Tamale-Gambaga Road, and at Adere on the Black Volta River on the Kintampo-Bole Road, in the Southern Province. The steel pontoons dug-outs on the Yeji Ferry are practically worn out and two large native have taken their place, while the others are now in little better condition.

76. Two cable ferries, constructed and maintained by the French Administration free of all tolls, are situated on the Black Volta River at the Baghari-Manoa and Metor-Dapola crossings near Lorha.

77. Many other ferries are in use on all the Volta Rivers—Black, Red, and White—and some of their tributaries, and are worked by the local chiefs. A number of the canoes used on these ferries were carried away by the sudden heavy flooding of the rivers, and were lost.

Transport.

78. Government stores are despatched by motor lorries to Ejura from Coomassie, thence to Yeji by carrier transport and by the Volta River in Canoes to Yapei, or, alternatively, by carrier transport to Salaga and Tamale.

79. No permanent gangs are employed in the Protectorate for transport. The number of loads received at Tamale was 2,293, of which 606 were transported by canoe to Yapei.

80. Within the North-Eastern and North-Western Provinces "post to post" carriers are employed by the Commissioners when travelling. Local carriers are paid at the rate of 6*d.* per diem.

Training Centre—Tamale.

81. A training centre (known as No. 3 Training Centre) for recruits was established at Tamale on the 24th October. Every endeavour was made to provide suitable accommodation for the European staff, which consisted of eight officers and six non-commissioned officers.

Huts for the accommodation of about 450 recruits were built with labour supplied by the Chief of Tamale.

The officer commanding training centre reports that the food and water supplies for the recruits were ample and that the general health of the men has been satisfactory.

Cattle Disease.

82. Doctor G. E. H. Le Fanu, of the Medical Department, arrived at Salaga in November, 1916, to investigate the infectious diseases of animals that are endemic in the Protectorate and subsequently compiled a most valuable report on the epizootic diseases that yearly decimate the herds of cattle owned by the natives.

Immigration and Emigration.

83. A few Fulanis arrive from time to time to settle in the Northern portions of the Protectorate, where they take charge of the herds of cattle belonging to the local natives. Beyond this there is but little immigration to record.

84. There is a migratory period every year towards Coomassie commencing about the end of August. A considerable number of boys then go down to find work, but in course of time most of these find their way back to their country, many returning in April or May. Gangs of boys are usually conducted by a native who has been to Coomassie before and their members each carry with them a scanty supply of food and little else.

Labour.

85. Unskilled labour at the rate of 6*d.* per diem is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain; nor can this be wondered at when so many of the natives have realised that, by going to Coomassie, they can readily obtain from 1*s.* to 2*s.* per diem for their services. All skilled labour is obtained from the Colony or Ashanti at a daily rate of from 1*s.* 9*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.*

Suitability of Climate for Europeans and Openings for White Labour.

86. The climate of the Northern Territories, while similar to that of the Gold Coast and Ashanti, may be said in comparison with them to be more trying in its extremes. It possesses an insidious quality that lowers the vitality of Europeans and renders unduly prolonged residence on their part inadvisable, and it is generally recognised that a period of recuperation in a more bracing and salubrious climate is necessary after a year's stay in the country.

There are no openings at present for white labour.

C. H. Armitage,
Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories.

Tamale,
3rd June, 1918.

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949	Ashanti	,,
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959	Cayman Islands	,,
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961	Mauritius	,,
962	Ashanti	1917
963	Falkland Islands	,,
964	Seychelles	,,
965	Weihaiwei	,,
966	Fiji	,,
967	Solomon Islands	1917–1918
968	Grenada	,,
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MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-Percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement

Printed under the authority of His Majesty's Stationery Office
By Barclay & Fry, Ltd., Southwark, London, S.E. 1.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1011.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1918.

(For Report for 1917 see No. 970,)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
December, 1919.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

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1919.

PRINTED IN THE GOLD COAST.

[Cmd. 1-34.] *Price 2d. Net.*

NORTHERN TERRITORIES.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR 1918.

GOLD COAST:

GOVERNMENT PRESS, ACCRA.

1919.

CONTENTS.

		Page.
I.	Financial	3
II.	Trade, Agriculture and Industries	5
III.	Legislation	9
IV.	Education	9
V.	Government Institutions	9
VI.	Judicial Statistics	10
VII.	Vital Statistics	12
VIII.	Posts and Telegraphs	15
IX.	Religion	16
X.	General Observations	17

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR 1918.

I.—FINANCIAL.

1. Since the abolition of the Caravan Tolls in 1908 the Revenue of the Protectorate has become a negligible quantity and will so continue until the inauguration of a cheap system of transport awakens industries that at present lie dormant in the country.

2. The Trade Roads, which are maintained at considerable expense and by the employment of a large amount of labour, continue to be made full use of by the numerous caravans that travel, free of all charges, southward to Ashanti and northward to French Territory.

3. In his message to the Legislative Council when presenting the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the year 1919, His Excellency the Governor, Sir Hugh Clifford, K.C.M.G., so lucidly placed the existing situation before his readers that no apology is needed for quoting his remarks, which were as follows :—

"It is commonly, but quite erroneously, imagined by some residents "in the Colony that the possession of the Northern Territories imposes a "burden upon the Gold Coast for which it makes no adequate return. Those "who are disposed to base their judgment of such matters upon the narrow "and imperfect foundation of a financial balance sheet will find therein a "certain apparent jurisdiction for this opinion.

"It is true that, since the abolition of the caravan tolls the revenue of the "Northern Territories has been negligible, amounting annually to little more "than £3,500. It is also true that the actual expenditure on the Protectorate "approximates to between four and five times that figure, representing an "annual excess of expenditure over revenue amounting to between £12,000 "to £13,500. These figures, however, only tell a portion of the truth. In "1908 and 1909, when the caravan dues were still in force, the revenue of the "Dependency amounted to £18,000 and to nearly £11,000 respectively and "having regard to the annual expansion of trade, there can be little doubt that "during the last decade if the collection of these dues had continued, the "annual revenue of the Northern Territories would have greatly increased. "The policy of abolishing the caravan-dues was deliberately embarked upon "in the interests of Ashanti and the Colony, and it is these parts of the Gold "Coast which have directly profited by the sacrifice of immediate revenue "to which the Northern Territories submitted ten years ago. The Colony "and Ashanti are almost entirely dependent for their meat-supply upon the cattle traffic which passes through the Northern Territories, and a

"portion of which originates in the Protectorate; and in 1916 and 1917 "respectively, 14,799 and 10,280 head of cattle reached Kumasi by routes "through the Northern Territories. Those who complain that the Protectorate "is not financially self-supporting may be asked to consider whether the "Colony and Ashanti would to-day be better situated than they are if, instead "of substituting an annual subsidy for the revenue which the Northern Terri- "tories formerly derived from this source, a policy had been persisted in which "tended to restrict the volume and considerably to increase the cost of the "meat supply for which there is a steady and growing demand, not only in the "main centres of population, but throughout the principal cocoa-districts, "where in normal times cattle are daily slaughtered.

"The consumption per head of imported articles by the large population "of the Northern Territories is negligible, if it be compared with that of the "natives of the Colony or Ashanti; but it should be remembered that the "customs duties payable upon any articles so consumed are credited, not to "the Northern Territories, but to the revenue of the Colony.

"The great service, however, which the Northern Territories renders "to the rest of the Gold Coast lies in the supply of man-power which it affords. "Large and increasing numbers of young men from this Dependency annually "visit the Colony and Ashanti in search of work. There is no recruiting "machinery in operation, the immigration being voluntary; but the supply of "able-bodied men which the Dependency has provided of recent years for "work in the gold mines and for the transport of cocoa has represented an "appreciable percentage of the total available labour for the Colony and "Ashanti alike.

"The Northern Territories has rendered an even more important service "to the Gold Coast by providing, by voluntary enlistment, ninety per centum "of the rank and file of the Regiment which bears this Colony's name. The "natives of this Dependency represent the best fighting-material which the "Gold Coast produces, and the splendid record of loyalty, heroism and courage "which the Gold Coast Regiment has established for itself in Togoland, in the "Kameruns, and in German and Portuguese East Africa, shows how fine is "the quality of that material."

4. The Nickel Coinage of three denominations—one penny, one half penny and one-tenth of a penny—which, since its introduction into the Protectorate in June 1913, had become so popular, and was rapidly banishing the native currency, (the cowrie shell, cyprea moneta), from the markets, has been impossible to obtain owing to the War, with the result that the cowrie is reappearing and is becoming a considerable source of friction between the petty trader and the natives. The ordinary rate of exchange is 1,000 cowries for the shilling, but the money changers, who are, in most cases, the traders themselves, do all in their power to force it down to as low a point as possible. The procedure is simple. The trader refuses to accept silver for his goods and the native has to have recourse to the money changer, who, in collusion with the trader, will give the native no more than from 600 to 800 cowries for his shilling. The Provincial Commissioner reports that this swindle

was carried on to such an extent in the markets of the North-Western Province that the natives began to believe that our silver currency had depreciated in value and were not reassured on the point until repressive measures had been adopted against this form of peculation by the money changers.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

5. Trade Statistics are kept at Stations situated on the main Trade Routes of the Protectorate, but as the registration of live stock and trade goods became voluntary after the abolition of the Caravan Tolls and, as many caravans—mainly those made up of live stock—travel during the night, the figures given must not be regarded as in any way approaching accuracy as an estimate of the volume of trade entering and leaving the country, but merely as an indication of a general increase or decrease in trade as the case may be, for the year under review. The Trade Routes from the North passing through Daboya to Kintampo, as well as others of minor importance, do not pass through any stations where statistics could be collected, nor are such compiled at Kintampo in Ashanti. The circumstances, which will be referred to later, that have combined this year to disorganize the trade of the country, have rendered such figures as are available even less dependable than in normal times.

6. The Imports, which consist generally of Cotton and Woollen goods, Silk Handkerchiefs and lengths, Hardware, Haberdashery, Beads, Brass Rods Tobacco, Tinned Provisions and Kola Nuts from Ashanti, have, with perhaps the exception of the last named, dwindled in proportion to the drop recorded in exports.

7. The decimation of the herds of Cattle by epizoötic diseases, not only in this Protectorate but in Haut Senegal Niger, combined with other fortuitous circumstances, produced a decrease of 10,115, as compared with that of 1917, in the number of cattle driven down to Ashanti. The large breed, known as "Moshi Cattle," and possessing a dorsal hump, is purchased in French country and forms the vast majority of the cattle that pass South through the country, but a few herds of the "Dagomba" type of cattle, bred in the Protectorate, have been driven to Coomassie, where good prices were realized for them. The Provincial Commissioner, North-Western Province, reports that during the year 1,054 of the latter were taken South from the Province either by their owners or by Ashantis and Fulanis, who bought them locally. These small cattle are said to be poor travellers as compared with the big Moshi breed.

8. The number of Sheep and Goats, most of which are bred in this Protectorate, exported during the year, fell short by 58,397 of that for 1917. The export of fowls remained normal.

9. The total figures available under all heads, *i.e.* "Animals, donkey and carrier loads" for the year under review are 62,406 less than those of the previous year, but as decreases under "Cattle" and "Sheep and Goats" amount to 68,512—under the head "Donkeys" the figures are practically normal—it follows that the number of carrier loads have increased by some 6,000.

10. The salt industry, which is in the hands of the Addah traders, remained normal. On their return journey from Tamale Port, which is situated on the White Volta River two days East of Tamale, the salt traders load their canoes with fowls, shea butter, native cloth, and a considerable number of horns of the bush cow and various species of antelope shot by the natives, which are reported to command a ready sale on the Coast.

11. Dried fish from the Niger and the Volta Rivers are exported to Ashanti and the Coast, but the latter trade is in the hands of the Bator Tribe, who come up River from the Colony during the fishing season.

12. The exports of Shea Butter, extracted from the fruit of Butyrospermum Parkii and of "Dawa Dawa," a food prepared from the seeds and flour-like substance contained in the pods of the locust bean, (Parkia filicoidea), have increased by 3,500 and 3,000 loads respectively.

13. The large fall in the exports of Cattle, Sheep and Goats, with its corresponding depressing effects on trade in imports are attributable to the following causes, additional to that of Cattle Diseases :—

(i). The long duration of the War. Traders find they cannot purchase the merchandise they require at Coomassie, or only at such prices as are prohibitive to them. On the other hand stagnation of the Cocoa trade and the dwindling of the Coast traders, profits may have curtailed the demand for Cattle, Sheep and Goats.

(ii). The enforcement of conscription among the natives of Haut Senegal Niger and its accompanying disturbances, which rendered the roads unsafe for caravans.

(iii). The outbreak of small-pox in the North Western Province in February and the succeeding months and of influenza, which practically put a stop to all trade during the last quarter of the year, and which, in both instances, caused the French Authorities to establish sanitary cordons round all their large Posts and Stations in Haut Senegal Niger, through which no one was allowed to pass.

Agriculture.

14. Although the rainfall, as recorded at Tamale, Wa and Gambaga averaged 11 inches less than that of 1917 there was a fair average harvest throughout the Protectorate, greatly marred, however, by the advent of influenza which seriously interfered with the garnering of the crops by the natives, who were prostrated by the disease and appeared to be deprived of all energy.

15. Several varieties of beans, ground nuts, guinea corn, maize, millet and rice are grown everywhere throughout the Protectorate, while yams are the favourite crop in the Southern, and Southern portions of the North-Eastern and North-Western Provinces and are gradually working their way North. Cotton and tobacco are grown in large quantities for local consumption.

In the Tamale District, the area under cultivation has been more than doubled this year owing to the greatly increased demand for foodstuffs caused by the establishment at Tamale of a Training Centre for Recruits.

16. The breeding of a straight-backed species of Cattle commonly known as "Dagomba," and somewhat resembling small Jerseys, is carried on throughout the Protectorate, but under the most primitive conditions, and no attempt is made to improve the breed by selection. Periodical outbreaks of anthrax and pleuro-pneumonia decimate the herds, as no steps are taken to isolate the infected beasts. The beef of the "Dagomba" cattle is superior to that of the humped "Moshi" variety, but no venture has been undertaken on a large scale to compete with the French Moshi cattle traders in the Coomassie Market, although such Dagomba cattle as have been sold there realized excellent prices. Every effort is being made to persuade the natives to take their cattle to Coomassie, but, until an European Veterinary Officer in permanent residence in the country has gained the confidence of the natives and has inculcated practical methods of improving the breed and warding off infectious disease, little can be done. An occasional tour through the country by a Veterinary Officer—European or Native—is of little or no use and has no beneficial results, as the native is extremely suspicious of these infrequent visits, which he associates with some future form of taxation with the result that he will, if possible, hide his cattle from the Inspecting Officer. Oxen are not made use of for ploughing, the hoe being the only implement employed in tilling the land.

Wire-haired Sheep, and Goats are bred everywhere, and large flocks of Guinea-Fowl, scarcely distinguishable from their wild relatives, run free through most villages. Fowls are also reared and carried South in considerable quantities.

Lions have been very troublesome in the North-Western Province and have levied a heavy toll on cattle during the year. This may be due to the scarcity of gunpowder; at any rate the natives complain bitterly of their inability on that account to protect their herds.

Agricultural Station, Tamale.

17. During the 1917—18 season 45 acres were under annual and 49 acres under perennial, crops, while 8 acres remained fallow. The acreage under Cotton was reduced from 25½ to 9⅞ acres, most of which was planted with "Black Rattler" seed. The highest yield was 256 lbs. and the lowest 51 lbs. per acre, with an average of 131 lbs. per acre.

An area of 15 acres was under leguminous crops. Ashanti Maize was a failure. Sweet potatoes, Cassava, Yams, Chinese yams, Ginger, Ochoes, Guinea corn, Millet and Fra Fra potatoes were grown with varying success.

The sections devoted to the cultivation of timber trees are not, generally speaking, a success. The teak tree plot continues to do well.

The Fruit trees—Mango, Guava, Lime, Lemon—yielded a fair supply of fruit.

Wheat growing experiments with seed obtained from Nigeria were conducted at the Agricultural Station and at Outstations in the North-Eastern and North-Western Provinces and their results were encouraging enough to warrant further trials. A considerable amount of labour is expended in keeping down the many insect pests, especially the Mole Cricket, that ravage the young plants.

Stock Farm.

18. The herd consisted of 21 cows, 11 calves, 2 bulls and 1 ox at the beginning, and of 20 cows, 21 calves, 3 bulls and 1 ox at the end, of the year. Two cows and one calf died, otherwise no disease occurred among the herd.

Industries.

19. Apart from agriculture, native industries are confined to the production of articles of local use and wear. Serviceable cloths are woven from native cotton yarn, and pottery, baskets, mats, rope, saddlery and leather goods, brass ornaments and iron hoes and axe-heads are manufactured, with other small articles necessary for the wants of a primitive people.

The Provincial Commissioner, North-Western Province, reports that the native cloth, mentioned above is becoming increasingly popular as an article of export, due, probably, to the enhanced prices charged for the inferior war article sold at Coomassie during the War. Three hundred and five loads of native cloth were taken South from the Province as compared with 30 loads in 1917.

20. The dyeing of native cloths and cotton goods and the smelting of iron from the ore give employment to natives in various parts of the Protectorate, and salt is produced by evaporation at Daboya. Gunpowder is manufactured in small quantities in Grunshi, but does not possess a high point of ignition.

Minerals.

21. Gold bearing quartz and alluvial deposits have been found in the neighbourhood of Wa and in the Bole District, where they are worked by Ashantis, and a certain amount of prospecting was carried out in the Dependency in 1902 and succeeding years, but lack of transport facilities debarred the undertaking of mining operations on a large scale, and such mining concessions as were acquired have lapsed.

22. The geological survey, which visited the Northern Territories in 1916 and reported on a large area of the country, undertook no further research work during the year under review.

The Chief Commissioner visited the South-Western portion of the North-Eastern Province in July to examine some extensive Micaceous out-crops that he had previously discovered. He had some difficulty in locating these,

owing to the grass and undergrowth being at its greatest height, but eventually succeeded in doing so and forwarded specimens of surface Mica to the Coast, which have been favourably reported on.

III.—LEGISLATION.

23. Nine Ordinances applicable to the Northern Territories were enacted by the Governor and Rules with respect to Prisons (2), with respect to the regulation of towns and villages, and under the Infectious Diseases Ordinance, 1918, were framed, and approved by His Excellency.

IV.—EDUCATION.

24. A daily average attendance of 57, as compared with 61 in 1917, was registered at the Government Primary School at Tamale. One pupil attended the Training College for teachers at Accra and one underwent a course of instruction at the Post and Telegraph School, Accra.

Three pupils who had finished their course at the Training College, Accra, returned to Tamale and have been appointed Assistant teachers at the Schools at Tamale, Wa and Gambaga.

The Annual examination held at the end of October was productive of most gratifying results and two pupils obtained Standard VII Certificates.

25. The average daily attendance of pupils at the Wa and Gambaga Schools was 58 and 33 respectively, but, in both cases, the parents exhibit a marked reluctance to send their children from a distance to attend School.

26. The Roman Catholic Mission School, (Pères Blancs), remained closed throughout the year owing to lack of funds.

27. Malams, who are to be found wherever Mohammedans reside, instruct the children to read and write Hausa in Arabic characters, and in learning by heart passages from the Koran.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

28. In addition to those Government institutions which are mentioned under the heads of "Education" and "Judicial Statistics," there are Government native hospitals established at Tamale, Salaga, and Bole in the Southern Province; at Wa, Tumu and Lorha in the North-Western, and at Gambaga and Zouragu, in the North-Eastern Provinces, but as the Medical Officers stationed at Wa and Gambaga are constantly travelling, these buildings are seldom occupied. The first two hospitals mentioned are permanent buildings constructed by the Public Works Department; the others are built of "Swish" or sun-baked bricks and are thatch roofed, but little, if any, advantage is taken of them by the natives where Medical Officers are not in residence.

The following table shows the number of native cases treated during the year at the Tamale and Salaga Hospitals:—

Hospital.	In-patients.	Out-patients.	Remarks.
Tamale	908	5,000	Operations under anaesthetic—29.
Salaga	56	1,372	

These figures show an increase of 740 and 1,396 for Tamale, and 54 and 935 for Salaga, respectively, over those of the previous year.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Northern Territories Constabulary.

29. This fine Force, in spite of not having been visited or inspected by one of its own Officers maintained its high standard of discipline, general efficiency and shooting throughout the year under the Political Officers in charge of Detachments.

There was no increase of the establishment, or change in the organization of the Force.

30. Captain W. M. Fowler was appointed Commandant *vice* Captain H. Dale-Glossop, retired on pension, and Lieutenant F. R. Westbrook, Assistant Commandant, *vice* Captain C. Thomas, transferred to the Police Department.

Prisons.

31. The central prison at Tamale is in charge of the Provincial Medical Officer and a native Keeper of Prisons, with the following staff :—One senior warder, one second-class warder, and 22 temporary warders.

32. All prisoners sentenced to six months' imprisonment and over undergo their terms of imprisonment in this prison, where a stricter discipline than is possible at Outstations is maintained.

33. The total number of prisoners admitted during the year was two hundred and ninety-five, with a daily average number of 87 convicts. Of these, 8 escaped while at work outside the prison and 5 were re-captured.

34. Three executions for murder were carried out and there were eleven deaths. The general health of the prisoners, who were employed chiefly in sanitary work, (average daily number 48), water carrying, repairing roads, streets and culverts and sinking wells, was good.

5. Prisoners rations were purchased in the market by the Keeper of Prisons, and a prison farm, cultivated by the prisoners, supplied a large quantity of foodstuffs. Three meals per diem, good in quality and quantity and cooked in the Prison, were provided for prisoners at a cost of a fraction under 2d. for each man.

36. There are gaols at Yeji, Salaga, Bole, Wa, Lorha, Tumu, Navarro, Zouaragu, Gambaga and Bawku, where prisoners whose sentences are less than six months' imprisonment, are confined. These prisoners are employed as at Tamale.

37. Summary jurisdiction obtains in the Northern Territories. The Chief Commissioner presiding in Court has full powers and jurisdiction in the Protectorate as a Judge of the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony, and, as far as it is practicable and local circumstances permit, the procedure in this Court, Civil and Criminal, is the same as that in the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony. Provincial Commissioners hear and determine all criminal

offences, punishable by a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds or imprisonment for twelve months: District Commissioners by a fine not exceeding fifty pounds or imprisonment for six months.

38. The civil jurisdiction of Provincial Commissioners and District Commissioners is limited to suits in which the claims do not exceed three hundred pounds and fifty pounds respectively.

39. Every encouragement has been given to the Chiefs to exercise their authority; to hear and determine cases relating to native property, marriage, and other civil actions and to uphold native laws and customs so long as they are not opposed to our ideas of justice and equity. Few appeals from decisions of the Chiefs are made to the Commissioner's Court, and, as a rule, local authority is exercised with the greatest moderation.

40. The following is a comparative table of crimes in the Protectorate during the last four years :—

	1915	1916	1917	1918
The number of Offences reported to the Police	1,167	603	585	579
The number of Persons apprehended by the Police or summoned before the Magistrate	1,167	603	585	579
The number of Summary Convictions.—				
1. For Offences against the Person	62	93	71	102
2. For Slave Dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For Offences against property other than Praedial Larceny ..	101	107	127	152
4. For Offences against Health etc. Acts	531	205	195	19
5. For Offences against Master and Servant Acts including Acts relating to Indentured Coolies	32	19	5	—
6. For Other Offences	307	78	65	82
The number of Convictions in the Superior Courts :—				
1. For Offences against the Person	7	22	16	13
2. For Slave Dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For Offences against property other than Praedial	6	10	12	14
4. For other Offences	5	17	15	6
The number of Persons acquitted				
1. In the Inferior Courts	103	46	81	111
2. In the Superior Courts ..	5	4	19	14

This table includes all cases dealt with in the Yendi District of Togoland.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

41. There were no deaths among the European Officials but 80 were placed on the sick list during the year and 10 were invalided. These figures are due to the establishment of a Training Centre at Tamale, which greatly increased the number of Europeans. All the invalidings but one occurred amongst the Officers and European Non-Commissioned Officers of the Training Centre, (4 Officers and 5 Non-Commissioned Officers).

There was one death, but no invalidings, amongst the Native Officials

Native Population.

42. The census, completed in 1911, gave an estimated population of 361,806 to the Northern Territories, with a computed area of 31,100 square miles; an average of 11·6 persons to the square mile. The census returns for the Southern and North-Western Provinces were considered to be fairly accurate, but those of the North-Eastern Province fell far short of being correct, and it is estimated that not more than two-thirds of the inhabitants were enumerated. Systematic work continues to be carried on in order to render the next census returns reliable in every respect, and Commissioners have been provided with census books in which the names of all villages are entered and a classified register of their inhabitants kept up to date. In spite of the heavy infant mortality it is considered that the population at the present day is greatly in excess of that shown in the last census returns.

43. The health of the Natives of the Southern Province may be said to have been good until the arrival of the influenza in October.

44. An outbreak of measles occurred in May at Bolgatanga in the Zouaragu District of the North-Western Province, from which 425 deaths were reported, mainly among the children, who, owing to the shortage of food that then prevailed, were badly nourished and unable to withstand the attack. Influenza, which broke out in October descended upon the Province from the North in the first instance, the natives of Leo having been attacked before those of the Navarro and Zouaragu Districts, but later it swept the country from the West and South.

45. The North-Western Province suffered heavily from disease throughout the year. During the first quarter, the small-pox, which had broken out in 1917, was still rife in the villages situated to the North-West of Wa and in the Lorha District, but it was not until the second quarter that an adequate supply of lymph was sent up and vaccination was undertaken. The disease disappeared by the end of the quarter. Five thousand six hundred and eighty-seven natives were vaccinated in the Tumu District towards the end of the year by a French native vaccinator, who used serum prepared at Ouga-

dougu by the French Medical Officer, which was kindly supplied through the good offices of the Resident at Leo. One hundred and forty children were inoculated at Tumu under the supervision of our Medical Officer, when only eight of these showed no signs of the serum having taken. Many more people could have been vaccinated had not the natives been prostrated by influenza when the Vaccinator's services were available. In March, a mysterious disease, afterwards diagnosed as anthrax, made its appearance in the Lorha District and was accountable for a number of deaths. In October the whole Province was swept by influenza.

46. The Pandemic of Influenza levied a heavy toll on the unfortunate natives of this Protectorate. There is reason to believe that the following figures, obtained from the Chiefs and Headmen, greatly underestimate the mortality that occurred.

Southern Province	..	2,517
North Eastern Province	..	18,267
North-Western Province	..	7,880
Total	..	28,664

It is thought that the high mortality in the North-Eastern Province was due to the lack of clothing worn by the natives. Another feature of the epidemic was that it seemed to pass by the old and decrepit of both sexes and to select its victims from among the young and robust.

47. Leprosy is not on the increase and, while uncommon in the Southern and North-Western Provinces, is of more frequent occurrence in the North-Eastern Province. The natives look upon it as "a visitation of Allah," but say that it shows no signs of spreading and are generally averse to compulsory isolation.

Water Supply.

48. Since the establishment of a Training Centre at Tamale steps have been taken to improve the Water Supply, which has hitherto been inadequate to supply the requirements of the native population. The existing wells are being put into a more or less permanent state of repair, while new ones are to be sunk if required.

49. The Dam, which burst during the rainy season of 1917, has been repaired and strengthened with a view to avoid a repetition of the disaster, which had deprived the natives of a much-needed supply of water during the last quarter of the year.

Meteorological Observations.

50. The following table shows the monthly Rainfall as recorded at Tamale for the last nine years :—

	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918
January	Nil	Nil	·01	Nil	·05	Nil	Nil	·28	Nil
February	·27	Nil	·02	·72	Nil	Nil	Nil	1·12	·06
March	1·17	7·98	1·64	0·72	1·63		1·51	1·54	1·28
April	5·77	1·68	3·75	1·57	·43		4·77	1·87	3·16
May	2·37	4·94	2·83	3·31	2·56		6·00	4·85	7·29
June	6·07	6·21	3·57	6·43	4·81		5·33	5·80	7·62
July	9·19	6·11	4·06	7·00	2·09		6·44	4·13	8·52
August	8·45	6·94	7·25	14·58	3·94		13·28	13·03	6·79
September	11·34	8·09	5·35	11·29	10·85		4·63	16·62	3·42
October	1·29	1·50	3·87	2·29	4·77		2·71	3·24	3·70
November	Nil	0·97	Nil	Nil	2·19	Nil	1·87	·29	1·89
December	·29	Nil	·01	Nil	Nil	·10	Nil	Nil	·72
Total ..	46·21	44·42	32·36	48·01	33·32	42·65	46·57	55·76	44·45

VIII.—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

51. Post and Telegraph Offices are established at Tamale, Salaga and Yeji.

52. Owing to the shortage of qualified operators, the telegraph line between Kintampo, Bole and Wa would have been closed had not the Commissioners' Clerks learnt the Morse Code and acted as operators. Communication is maintained between Tamale and Gambaga along the telegraph line by means of a telephone attachment.

53. Letters are received and despatched from all stations and the Commissioners have stamps for sale.

54. Telegrams were received at, and despatched from, Tamale, as compared with the previous year, as follows :—

	Received.		Despatched.	
	1917	1918	1917	1918
Official	2,957	3,481	2,817	4,196
Private	604	814	780	1,146

55. The following Statistics show the business done in the Post Office, Tamale as compared with that of 1917 :—

	1917	1918
	£ s. d.	s. d.
Stamps sold	175 15 2½	242 5 3½
Postal Orders sold	490 17 6	605 19 6
Poundage on same	7 17 11	8 12 4
Money Orders issued	137 18 2	246 10 7
Commission on same	1 6 4½	2 17 3½
Total ..	£817 15 2	£1,106 5 0

Mails despatched South	.. 97	Bags	2 parcels Mails.
Mails despatched North	.. 195	,,	Nil ,, ,,
Mails received South	.. 304	,,	19 ,, ,,
Mails received North	.. 197	,,	9 ,, ,,

56. At Salaga, Postal Orders to the value of £143 15s. 0d. and Postage Stamps to the value of £53 18s. 0d. were sold, as compared with £115 1s. 1d. and £32 18s. 9d. during the previous year and, at Yeji, £128 4s. 7d. and £32 8s. 1d. as against £209 4s. 4d. and £30 17s. 4d.

IX.—RELIGION.

57. Three Fathers of the Roman Catholic Mission, (Pères Blancs), established at Navarro in 1908, were in residence during the year, but no statistics are available as to the number of their converts to Christianity, which at the end of 1915 was stated to be 287, of whom 139 had been baptized and received into the Church.

58. The relative numbers of Christians, Mohammedans and Pagans in the Northern Territories, as shown in the Census for 1911, were as follows :—

Christians.	Mohammedans.	Pagans.
133	42,598	319,075

59. Mohammedanism would appear to make little, if any, progress in this Dependency, and is, in the case of many of those professing its tenets, of a debased form, and more than tainted with the prevailing paganism. The bulk of the Mohammedan population is to be found in the Southern Province.

Larabanga, in the Bole District, is a stronghold of Mohammedans, and it is the proud boast of the Chief and Imam that not a single pagan resides in the town. The latter carefully guards an ancient copy of the Koran, bound in several volumes, which is stated to have been the property of the Mohammedan founder of Larabanga, who came from Mecca, having left his Koran behind. After many days of prayer and fasting, the Koran was miraculously restored to him at Larabanga, and has been reverenced by succeeding Imams ever since.

The chief centres of Mohammedanism are, in the Southern Province, Tamale and its surrounding villages, Salaga, Bole and Larabanga : in the North-Eastern Province, Gambaga, Wale-Wale and Bawku : in the North-Western Province, Wa, Gurupisi, Uasa and Wahabu.

A Mohammedan Priest at Navarro, in the North-Eastern Province, is reported to have made no headway at all, and has so far not succeeded in making a single convert.

60. Although the Pagan portions of the population show no great desire, as a whole, to abandon their form of belief, they exhibit no sort of resentment towards the members of other denominations. The belief of the heathen portion of the native community is a primordial animism. Each town or village has its own " fetish " which is usually to be found at the entrance to the Chief Priest's compound, and takes various forms, such as a conical pile of earth, or a three pronged stick, supporting a pot in which grows a shrub, grass, or an aquatic plant. These represent the " fetish " itself, which is recognised in many forms, as lightning, a lion, hawk, crocodile, snake, tortoise, or other animal, bird or reptile. Such " fetishes " guard and watch over the general welfare of the villages and its inhabitants and communicate with the latter through their priests. When offended, these " fetishes " are propitiated by the sacrifice of sheep or goats, and of black cats or dogs.

Every family has its own " fetish," usually a conical heap of clay with a small pot sunk in its apex. It is to be seen outside every compound, and is consulted on all matters relating to the welfare of the family. Sacrifices are made to it by killing fowls over it, and allowing their blood to run into the pot and over its support; the bird's feathers then being stuck on before the blood congeals.

The " Lightning Fetish " is the most dreaded, and is universally invoked to revenge theft. No Native would dream of attempting to arrest a conflagration caused by lightning. The veneration of ancestors also forms part of the native religious belief, and their shades are consulted through the family fetish.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

61. The relations existing between this Administration and our French neighbour and ally have never been more cordial and the latter has gratefully acknowledged the assistance given by us to the French Authorities during the period of conscription of natives in their Territory. Many informal meetings between British and French Officials took place during the year and, as a result of these, so excellent an understanding has been arrived at that the natives aptly sum up the situation in the remark—" The British and French are now like two fingers on the same hand."

62. An Officer, drawn from the Political Staff of the Northern Territories, was stationed at Yendi, the Capital of Dagomba, throughout the year.

Administration.

63. The Chief Commissioner administered the Protectorate during the year. After travelling from Yendi to Lome, where he spent Christmas, 1917, he landed at Accra on the 31st December and, after a stay of ten days, returned to the Northern Territories *via* Seccondee, Coomassie and Kintampo and visited all stations in the Protectorate before returning to Headquarters, after an absence of five months.

64. Major B. Moutray-Read, Provincial Commissioner, Northern Territories, retired on pension in August. Major Read was appointed a Captain of Infantry, Gold Coast Regiment, West African Frontier Force, on transfer from Lagos in January 1903 and was promoted a Provincial Commissioner of this Protectorate in January 1907. He compiled a Map of the North-Western Province and rendered valuable assistance to this administration in many other directions.

65. The difficulty, referred to last year, in keeping open the various stations owing to the shortage of Officers, was accentuated during the year, but the administrative Staff responded loyally to the appeal made to them to extend their tours of service for as long a period as their health permitted and, during the year under review, no Officer proceeded on leave who had not completed a tour of at least eighteen months. The Yeji and Zouaragu Districts were administered throughout the year by the Commissioners of the Salaga and Navarro Districts, respectively.

Native Affairs.

66. Nothing occurred during the year to mar the peace that reigned throughout the Protectorate. The old men, especially those living in the Northern Provinces, proved themselves, more than ever, to be intolerant and reactionary. They do everything in their power to counteract the growing authority of the Chiefs, for whom they retain a fanatical hatred, and put every obstacle in the way of their young men getting into touch with civilization. They defy authority, confident in the thought that their age protects them and are a thorn deeply imbedded in the flesh of the Administration, and one difficult to extract.

67. The Chief Commissioner visited Bole in February and was met there by the Provincial Commissioner, Southern Province, and all the principal Chiefs of the Gonja Tribe, when he publicly re-instated Mahama, as Paramount Chief of Gonja and degraded Yaya, Chief of Bole, who, with his nephew Osumanu, had engineered the so-called "rising" in the Bole District in order to bring about Mahama's ruin. Yaya and Osumanu were sent down as Political Prisoners to Coomassie.

68. Internicine quarrels continued at intervals throughout the year among the Konkombas living in the French Sphere of Influence on the Left Bank of the Oti River in which their friends and relatives on the Right Bank of the River—the British Sphere of Influence—showed, on more than one occasion, an inclination to join. A system of patrols along the River Bank prevented them from doing so, and, apart from an occasional market-day quarrel among the young men, which in one or two cases resulted in arrow shooting, nothing has occurred to disturb the peace of the Yendi District

Recruiting.

69. The Chief Commissioner, after leaving Bole, opened a Recruiting Campaign in the North-Western Province, from which, hitherto, no recruits had been obtained, in February. The response to his appeal exceeded all expectations, especially in the Lorha District, and recruits poured in, despite the curses called down upon them by the old men. After recruiting meetings had been held in the Tumu District, where satisfactory results were obtained, the campaign was carried into the North-Eastern Province and the young men were already beginning to come forward, when instructions were received from the Coast to discontinue recruiting meetings and special appeals owing to the congested state of the Tamale Training Centre, where large numbers of recruits were already in training. No further active recruiting was undertaken during the year.

70. The majority of the recruits enlisted in Ashanti were actually natives from the Northern Territories who were paid by the Ashanti Chiefs sums ranging from £5 to £25 to induce them to join the Gold Coast Regiment in their, (the Chiefs'), names.

Training Centre, Tamale.

71. On the 1st January 1918 there were 429 Rank and File stationed at Tamale. 1,595 recruits were enlisted during the year, and a very large number of would-be recruits were discharged as medically unfit at Wa and Gambaga. The signing of the Armistice in November was followed by instructions to discharge all recruits who had enlisted for the period of the War and, on the 31st December no more than 116 rank and file remained at the Training Centre.

72. The return to their homes of a large body of high spirited young men, who had thoroughly enjoyed their training and the healthy camp life, and who possessed more money than they knew what to do with, could not be expected to pass without incident and, in some cases, the Chiefs were insulted and informed that they were mere " bush-men "—if not worse—and their authority flouted. Quarrels also arose between the returned recruits and their brothers who had elected to stay at home and who were roundly jeered at by the former. Matters, however, adjusted themselves after examples had been made of a few youths who had defied their Chiefs and the recruiting movement will undoubtedly prove of benefit to the country.

Roads.

73. Road construction was mainly confined to the repair of roads damaged or washed away by the previous year's rains. Thus, two new bridges were built on the Tamale—Tamale Port Road and their approaches widened and heightened, while two bridges were re-erected at the Makongo end of the Yeji—Makongo Road, every bridge on which had been carried away in September 1917, while a big enbankment constructed in 1914 between Tunga and the Volta River was severely damaged. It was found impossible to repair these with the funds available and attention was directed to the road built by Major Leslie in 1909, which was found to be in fair condition and requiring much less bridging than the more recently constructed road. A new crossing over the Tunga swamp having been found, the " Leslie Road " was repaired at a cost of £200 and communication maintained throughout the rains. The Salaga—Dogankedi section of the main road to Tamale was completed early in the year, but no money was available for further construction. In the Bole District, work on the roads from Kintampo and Tamale to Bole, both of which cross a large swamp near the latter Station, was put in hand and the former completed by the end of the year.

74. All Roads that suffered in the North-Eastern and North-Western Provinces in the 1917 rains were repaired and the bridges on them reconstructed. At the commencement of the year the Acting District Commissioner—Lorha, Mr. Johnstone, called all the Chiefs and Headmen of the District into Lorha and, in their presence, laid out a model road from the Cantonments to the Zongo. The result of this practical demonstration in road construction is that the District now boasts of 250 miles of ditched roads, in many cases constructed by the Chiefs on their own initiative to link up their respective villages.

Rest Houses.

75. There are 80 Rest Houses situated in the Southern, 113 in the North-Eastern and 102 in the North-Western Provinces. They are usually of the "Round House" type, with conical thatched roof, and stand in large compounds surrounded, in most cases, by thick "swish" walls. Their repair and upkeep is in the hands of the Chiefs.

Ferries.

76. Two ferries, under Government control and at which tolls are collected, are situated on the Volta River at Yeji and the Dakar River at its confluence with the Volta.

The Tolls for the year at the Yeji Ferry amounted to £1,402 5s. 0d., as compared with £1,558 3s. 9d. in 1917. The whole of the decrease of £155 18s. 9d. occurred during the outbreak of influenza. Two steel Pontoons and one large native Canoe were in use at the Ferry during the year. The capacity of each is 25 persons and loads.

The Dakar River Ferry, closed in September 1917, was not re-opened until the following March. The Tolls collected amounted to £157 7s. 6d. and just covered working expenses.

77. Steel Pontoons have been placed on the Pru River at Prang; on the Yamalaga River on the main road to Tamale; on the Nabugu and Nasia Rivers on the Tamale—Gambaga Road, and at Adere on the Black Volta River on the Kintampo—Bole Road, in the Southern Province, but all these, including those at the Yeji Ferry, are practically worn out and are now weighted down with the cement used in their repair.

78. Two cable ferries, constructed and maintained by the French Administration, free of all tolls, are situated on the Black Volta River at the Baghari—Manoa and Metor—Dapola crossings near Lorha. A wooden pontoon has been placed on the Konyokuom River in the Lorha District, at a spot where a large number of traders cross. Many other ferries are in use on all the Volta Rivers—Black, Red, and White—and some of their tributaries, and are worked by the local chiefs.

Transport.

79. Government Stores are despatched by motor lorries to Attabubu from Coomassie, thence to Yeji by carrier transport and by the Volta River to Yapei, (Tamale Port), in canoes, or, alternatively, by carrier transport to Salaga and Tamale.

80. No permanent gangs are employed in the Protectorate for transport, but 3,522 men were engaged on transport work as compared with 2,183 in 1917. The number of head loads conveyed from Tamale Port to Tamale was 1,213, or double that of the previous year.

81. Within the North-Eastern and North-Western Provinces "post to post" carriers are employed by the Commissioners when travelling. Local carriers are paid at the rate of 6d. per diem.

Public Works.

82. No works of importance were undertaken during the year under review.

Immigration and Emigration.

83. A few Fulanis arrive from time to time to settle in the Northern portions of the Protectorate, where they take charge of the herds of cattle belonging to the local natives. Beyond this there is but little immigration to record.

84. There is a migratory period every year towards Coomassie commencing about the end of August. A considerable number of boys then go down to find work, but in course of time most of these find their way back to their country, many returning in April or May. Gangs of boys are usually conducted by a native who has been to Coomassie before and their members each carry with them a scanty supply of food and little else.

Large numbers of boys who were on their way down towards the end of the year, to Coomassie from the North-Western Province were driven back by the advancing wave of influenza to which many succumbed.

Labour.

85. Unskilled labour at the rate of 6d. per diem is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain; nor can this be wondered at when so many of the natives have realized that, by going to Coomassie, they can readily obtain from 1s. to 2s. per diem for their services. All skilled labour is obtained from the Colony or Ashanti at a daily rate of from 1s. 9d. to 3s. 6d.

Suitability of climate for Europeans and openings for White Labour.

86. The climate of the Northern Territories, while similar to that of the Gold Coast and Ashanti, may be said in comparison with them to be more trying in its extremes. It possesses an insidious quality that lowers the vitality of Europeans and renders unduly prolonged residence on their part inadvisable and it is generally recognised that a period of recuperation in a more bracing and salubrious climate is necessary after a year's stay in the country.

There are no openings at present for white labour.

C. H. ARMITAGE,

Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories.

Tamale,

26th May, 1919.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

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982	Bermuda	,,
983	Swaziland	1917–1918
984	Trinidad	1917
985	Mauritius	,,
986	Cyprus	1917–1918
987	Bechuanaland Protectorate	,,
988	East Africa Protectorate	1916–1917
989	Barbados	1917–1918
990	Sierra Leone.	1917
991	Straits Settlements	,,
992	Leeward Islands	1917–1918
993	Uganda	,,
994	British Honduras	1917
995	Gilbert and Ellice Islands..	1917–1918
996	Nyasaland	,,
997	Basutoland..	,,
998	Gold Coast	1917
999	Weihaiwei	1918
1000	Zanzibar	,,
1001	Hong Kong	,,
1002	Somaliland..	1917–1918
1003	Cayman Islands	,,
1004	Malta	1918–1919
1005	Seychelles	1918
1006	Fiji	,,
1007	Ceylon	,,
1008	Nigeria	1917
1009	Turks and Caicos Islands..	1918
1010	St. Helena	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey 1908–9
81	Southern Nigeria..	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta Percha
83	Southern Nigeria..	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria..	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria..	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria..	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

Printed under the authority of HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By Barclay & Fry, Ltd., Southwark, London, S.E. 1.

(625) Wt.1/155. 1,000. 12.19. B.&F.,Ltd. G.11.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1082.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1919.

(For Report for 1918 see No. 1011.)

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

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NORTHERN TERRITORIES.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR 1919.

GOLD COAST:
GOVERNMENT PRESS, ACCRA.

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CONTENTS.

	Page.
I. Financial	3
II. Trade, Agriculture and Industries	5
III. Legislation	9
IV. Education	9
V. Government Institutions	10
VI. Judicial Statistics	11
VII. Vital Statistics	13
VIII. Posts and Telegraphs	15
IX. Religion	16
X. General Observations	17

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR 1919.

1.—FINANCIAL.

1. Caravan Tolls, which were abolished on the 1st September 1908, and which realized in 1907 a sum of £18,046, represented practically the one source of Revenue of the Protectorate, which has since become a negligible quantity and will so continue until the inauguration of cheap transport stimulates industries that at present lie latent.

2. The Trade Roads, which are maintained at considerable expense and by the employment of a large amount of labour, benefit the numerous caravans that travel along them, free of all charges, southward to Ashanti and Northward to French Territory.

3. In his message to the Legislative Council when presenting the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the Gold Coast Colony and its Dependencies for the year under review, the late Governor, Sir Hugh Clifford, placed before his readers the Protectorate's position in the following terms:—

"It is true that, since the abolition of the caravan tolls, the revenue of "the Northern Territories has been negligible, amounting annually to little "more than £3,500. It is also true that the actual expenditure on the Pro- "tectorate approximates to between four and five times that figure, repre- "senting an annual excess of expenditure over revenue amounting to between "£12,000 to £13,500. These figures, however, only tell a portion of the truth. "In 1908 and 1909, when the caravans dues were still in force, the revenue of "the Dependency amounted to £18,000 and to nearly £11,000 respectively "and having regard to the annual expansion of trade, there can be little doubt "that during the last decade if the collection of these dues had continued, "the annual revenue of the Northern Territories would have greatly increased. "The policy of abolishing the caravan-dues was deliberately embarked upon "in the interest of Ashanti and the Colony, and it is these parts of the Gold "Coast which have directly profited by the sacrifice of immediate revenue "to which the Northern Territories submitted ten years ago. The Colony "and Ashanti are almost entirely dependent for their meat-supply upon the "cattle traffic which passes through the Northern Territories, and a portion "of which originates in the Protectorate; and in 1916 and 1917 respectively, "14,799 and 10,280 head of cattle reached Coomassie by routes through the "Northern Territories. Those who complain that the Protectorate is not "financially self-supporting may be asked to consider whether the Colony "and Ashanti would to-day be better situated than they are if, instead of

" substituting an annual subsidy for the revenue which the Northern Terri-
" tories formerly derived from this source, a policy had been persisted
" in which tended to restrict the volume and considerably to increase the
" cost of the meat supply for which there is a steady and growing demand,
" not only in the main centres of population, but throughout the principal
" cocoa-districts, where in normal times cattle are daily slaughtered.

" The consumption per head of imported articles by the large population
" of the Northern Territories is negligible, if it be compared with that of the
" natives of the Colony or Ashanti ; but it should be remembered that the
" customs duties payable upon any articles so consumed are credited, not to
" the Northern Territories, but to the revenue of the Colony.

" The great service, however, which the Northern Territories renders to
" the rest of the Gold Coast lies in the supply of man-power which it affords.
" Large and increasing numbers of young men from this Dependency annual-
" ly visit the Colony and Ashanti in search of work. There is no recruiting
" machinery in operation, the immigration being voluntary ; but the supply
" of able-bodied men which the Dependency has provided of recent years for
" work in the Gold Mines and for the transport of cocoa has represented an
" appreciable percentage of the total available labour for the Colony and
" Ashanti alike.

" The Northern Territories has rendered an even more important service
" to the Gold Coast by providing, by voluntary enlistment, ninety per centum
" of the rank and file of the Regiment which bears this Colony's name. The
" natives of this Dependency represent the best fighting material which the
" Gold Coast produces, and the splendid record of loyalty, heroism and courage
" which the Gold Coast Regiment has established for itself in Togoland, in
" the Kameruns, and in German and Portuguese East Africa, shows how
" fine is the quality of that material."

4. This statement was supplemented by the present Governor, His Excellency Brigadier General F. G. Guggisberg, C. M. G., D. S. O., in a speech delivered by him at the Council Chamber on the 9th October, 1919. His Excellency spoke as follows :—

" I am immensely struck by the way in which the whole of the Gold Coast
" did its work in this war as part of our great Empire. We are sometimes apt
" to forget things but I can promise you that the Government will never
" forget what the people of this country did for the Empire during the war.
" In this connection I want the people of the Gold Coast and the people of
" Ashanti, who are both so well off and so fortunate with their great produc-
" tion of wealth, not to forget what the Northern Territories have, for so
" many years, purposely but unavoidably been deprived of sufficient funds
" to help them along in that great progress which we expect them to make.
" I specially mention this to you because during the course of next month
" I shall be asking you to agree to certain increases in expenditure which
" will directly benefit the Northern Territories, and which, incidentally will
" indirectly benefit the whole country enormously."

5. The following enheartening message occurred in His Excellency's address to the Legislative Council at a meeting held on the 20th October last :—

"Finally, I should like to send a message to the Northern Territories "that I hope within the next few years to see trains heavily loaded with "ground-nuts, shea-butter, corn, and cattle steaming south across the Volta. "The career of the Northern Territories as the Cinderella of the Gold Coast "is nearing its end : as Cinderella she has done good and unobtrusive work : "her reward for that, and for the gallantry of her soldiers, is in sight.", and was communicated to the Protectorate by telegram, where it aroused the greatest enthusiasm among all sections of the community.

6. The shortage of silver coinage and the attempt to replace this by the substitution of a paper currency, has reacted most unfavourably on trade and labour. The natives of the Northern Territories refuse to accept the paper notes, which have, perforce to be offered to them. The paper currency is quite unsuited to climatic conditions, apart from other obvious considerations, and the inauguration of an alloy currency will be received with relief and thankfulness.

7. The Nickel Coinage of three denominations—one penny, one half-penny and one-tenth of a penny—which, since its introduction into the Protectorate in June, 1913, had become so popular, and was rapidly banishing the native currency, (the cowrie shell, cyprea moneta), from the markets, has been impossible to obtain in sufficient quantities to meet the demand, owing to the war, with the result that the cowrie is reappearing and has become a considerable friction between the petty trader and the natives. The ordinary rate of exchange is 1,000 cowries for the shilling, but the money changers, who are, in most cases, the traders themselves, do all in their power to force it down to as low a point as possible. The procedure is simple. The trader refuses to accept silver for his goods and the native has to have recourse to the money changer, who, in collusion with the trader, will give the native no more than from 600 to 800 cowries for his shilling. This swindle was carried on to such an extent in the markets that the natives began to believe that our silver currency had depreciated in value and were not reassured on the point until repressive measures had been adopted against this form of peculation by the money changers.

II. TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

8. Trade Statistics are kept at Stations situated on the main Trade Routes of the Protectorate, but as the registration of live stock and trade goods became voluntary after the abolition of the caravan tolls and, as many caravans—mainly those made up of live stock—travel during the night, the figures given must not be regarded as in any way approaching accuracy as

an estimate of the volume of trade entering and leaving the country, but merely as an indication of a general increase or decrease in trade, as the case may be, for the year under review. The Trade Routes from the North running through Daboya to Kintampo, as well as others of minor importance, do not pass through any stations where statistics could be collected, nor are such compiled at Kintampo in Ashanti.

9. The Pandemic of Influenza that swept through the country and decimated the inhabitants of the Northern Provinces, selecting its victims from among the youth of the population: the cattle sickness in Haut Senegal Niger and the restrictions placed on the export of cattle through the Northern Territories by the French Authorities, have all contributed to disorganise the trade of the country, both North and South-ward.

10. The Imports, which mainly consist of Cotton and Woollen goods, Silk Handkerchiefs and lengths, Hardware, Haberdashery, Beads, Brass Rods, Tobacco, Tinned Provisions and Kola Nuts from Ashanti, have sustained a general decrease in direct ratio to that recorded in Exports.

11. Available statistics show a drop of 50 per centum in the number of Cattle driven through this Protectorate to Ashanti, as well as in the number of Sheep and Goats exported. The price of Cattle, Sheep and Goats has increased in proportion to the heavy fall in the number exported.

12. The total figures available under the heads Cattle, Sheep and Goats and Donkey Loads for the year under review show a falling off of no less than 21,189 from those of 1918.

13. The export of Native Cloth from French country shows a very large increase—6,417 loads as compared with 1,349 in 1918. This is undoubtedly due to the greatly enhanced prices now charged for English Cloths of a quality inferior to that sold before the war.

14. The Salt Industry, which is in the hands of the Addah traders of the Eastern Province of the Colony, has shown a considerable falling off. On their return journey from Tamale Port, which is situated on the White Volta River, two days East of Tamale, the salt traders load their canoes with fowls, shea-butter, native cloth, and a considerable number of horns of the bush cow and various species of antelope shot by the natives, which are reported to command a ready sale on the Coast.

15. Dried fish from the Niger and the Volta Rivers are exported to Ashanti and the Coast, but the latter trade is in the hands of the Bator Tribe, who come up River from the Colony during the fishing season.

16. The exports of Shea-butter, extracted from the fruit of Butyrospermum Parkii. and of "Dawa Dawa", a food prepared from the seeds and flour-like substance contained in the pods of the locust bean, (Parkia filicoidea) has shown a slight increase over those of 1918.

Agriculture.

17. The crops grown in the Protectorate during the year were good, owing to the more even distribution of the rainfall, and excellent harvests were the result. The area of land under cultivation shows a steady increase.

18. Several varieties of beans, ground nuts, guinea corn, maize, millet and rice are grown everywhere throughout the Protectorate, while yams are the favourite crop in the Southern, and Southern portions of the North-Eastern and North-Western, Provinces and are gradually working their way North. Cotton and tobacco are grown in large quantities for local consumption.

19. The breeding of a straight-backed species of Cattle commonly known as "Dagomba", and somewhat resembling small Jerseys, is carried on throughout the Protectorate, but under the most primitive conditions, and no attempt is made to improve the breed by selection. Periodical outbreaks of anthrax and pleuro-pneumonia decimate the herds, as no steps are taken to isolate the infected beasts. The beef of the "Dagomba" cattle is superior to that of the humped "Moshi" variety, but no venture has been undertaken on a large scale to compete with the French Moshi cattle traders in the Coomassie Market, although such Dagomba cattle as have been sold there realized excellent prices. A Veterinary Officer arrived at Tamale in October and has since then toured the country. The permanent establishment of this Department in the Northern Territories, with the inculcation of practical methods of improving the breed of Cattle and of arresting infectious diseases will undoubtedly open up an industry that will greatly benefit Ashanti and the Colony and may, in the future, render them independent of the present Moshi cattle supply. At present oxen are not made use of for ploughing, the hoe being the only implement employed for tilling the land.

Wire-haired Sheep, and Goats, are bred everywhere, and large flocks of Guinea-Fowl, scarcely distinguishable from their wild relatives, run free through most villages. Fowls are also reared and carried South in considerable quantities.

20. Lions continue to be a great nuisance and have levied a heavy toll on cattle during the year. This may be due to the scarcity of gunpowder; at any rate the natives complain bitterly of their inability on that account to protect their herds.

Agricultural Station, Tamale.

21. During the 1918—1919 Season 45 acres were planted with annual and 55 acres with perennial, crops—2 acres remained fallow.

The acreage under Cotton was reduced to $9\frac{3}{4}$ acres—7 acres of which were planted with Black Rattler and the remaining $2\frac{3}{4}$ with small plots of 3 varieties and 5 selections. The highest yield was 312 lbs from the "Manured" 1 acre plot of Black Rattler and the lowest 34 lbs per acre from one of the selections. The average of Black Rattler per acre was 151 lbs.

Sisal Hemp. 18,844 leaves, weighing 21,574 lbs, produced 922 lbs of dry fibre prepared by Prison labour.

An area of 16 acres was under leguminous crops, the highest yields per acre being pigeon pea, 490 lbs, and Geocarpa 788 lbs.

Ashanti maize was again a failure and so was Guinea Corn, due possibly to late planting, coupled with a paucity of rain. Wheat, planted in drills and ridges, germinated well but insects did much damage to the plants and those left died from a lack of rain. It would appear that, for success, irrigation for this crop should be resorted to.

Other food and annual crops—such as Cassava, Chinese yam, Sweet Potato, Rice etc.—were grown with varying success. Fish Poison, (Tephrosia Vogelii). A first crop from 1 acre, harvested in January, and a second crop, harvested in December, gave 303 lbs and 91 lbs of threshed seed respectively. There is a market for this product in England.

With the exception of the Teak plot, the sections devoted to timber cultivated are not making appreciable progress. The most forward Teak trees have seeded. Of nine acres, which proved useless for annual crops. 6½ acres were planted at stake with Teak and 2½ acres with Native Mahogany.

Fruit. Good crops of Bananas, Cashew, Guava, Limes, Mangoes and Pine Apples were obtained.

22. Sub-Stations. One each in the North-Eastern Province at Gambaga and the North-Western Province at Wa.

Food and annual crops grown. Dagarti bean, Cassava, Guinea corn, ordinary Ground nut, Millet, Pigeon pea, Sweet Potato, Canavalia beans, Cotton. Ashanti maize was a failure on both Sub-Stations, as was the case with Wheat.

Other Crops. Fish Poison and Sisal Hemp. Permanent Cultivation. Acacia Decurrens, Eucalypti, Kapok, Native Mahogany, Strophanthus Hispidus, Teak and various fruit trees.

23. Distributions to natives consisted principally of large numbers of seeds tubers, bulbils and plants of economic importance.

Stock Farm.

24. The herd remained healthy during the year. Fifteen were disposed of in connection with the Peace Celebrations and 6 sold locally; the total sales amounting to £63. 1. 2. One cow died from the effects of a still-birth. Six female and 6 male Calves were born during the year. The herd now consists of 13 cows, 1 bull and 22 calves.

INDUSTRIES.

25. Apart from agriculture, native industries are confined to the production of articles of local use and wear. Serviceable cloths are woven from native cotton yarn, and pottery, baskets, mats, rope, saddlery and leather goods, brass ornaments and iron hoes and axe-heads are manufactured with other small articles necessary for the wants of a primitive people.

26. The dyeing of native cloths and cotton goods and the smelting of iron from the ore give employment to natives in various parts of the Protectorate, and salt is produced by evaporation at Daboya. Gunpowder is manufactured in small quantities in Grunshi, but does not possess a high point of ignition.

MINERALS.

27. Gold bearing quartz and alluvial deposits have been found in the neighbourhood of Wa and in the Bole District, where they are worked by Ashantis, and a certain amount of prospecting was carried out in the Dependency in 1902 and succeeding years, but lack of transport facilities debarred the undertaking of mining operations on a large scale, and such mining concessions as were acquired have lapsed.

Specimens of surface Mica obtained from some extensive Micaceous outcrops situated in the South-West area of the North-Eastern Province were sent down to the Coast in 1918 and were favourably reported on. No further investigations of the outcrops have as yet been made.

III.—LEGISLATION.

28. Eleven Ordinances applicable to the Northern Territories were enacted by the Governor.

IV.—EDUCATION.

29. The Government Primary School at Tamale had a daily average attendance of 56, as compared with 57 in 1918. The number of pupils who attended the yearly examination was 63 and the results showed a marked improvement over those of the preceding year. One boy was sent to the Training College at Accra and two to the Agricultural Station, Tamale, as Learners. Three pupils from the Tamale School, who underwent a course of training at Accra and who were appointed Assistant Teachers at the Schools at Tamale, Wa and Gambaga in 1918, acquitted themselves with credit during the year under review.

30. Primary Schools were opened at Wa and Lorha in the North-Western Province, where the attendance was 50 and 48 respectively. The attendance at the Gambaga School in the North-Eastern Province was 40. In the case of each of these Schools parents continue to exhibit a marked reluctance to send their children for instruction from a distance, which neccessitates the absence of the latter from their homes during the terms.

31. The Roman Catholic Mission School, (Pères Blancs), remained closed throughout the year owing to lack of funds.

32. Malams, who are to be found wherever Mohamedans reside, instruct the children to read and write Hausa in Arabic characters, and in learning by heart passages from the Koran.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

33. In addition to those Government Institutions which are mentioned under the heads of "Education" and "Judicial Statistics", there are Government Native Hospitals established at Tamale, Salaga, and Bole in the Southern Province; at Wa, Tumu and Lorha in the North-Western, and at Gambaga and Zouaragu in the North-Eastern Provinces, but, as the Medical Officers stationed at Wa and Gambaga are constantly travelling, these buildings are seldom occupied. The first two hospitals mentioned are permanent buildings constructed by the Public Works Department; the others are built of "Swish", or sun-baked bricks, and are thatch roofed, but little, if any, advantage is taken of them by the natives where Medical Officers are not in residence.

The following table shows the number of native cases treated during the year at the Tamale, Wa, Gambaga, and Salaga Hospitals:—

Hospital. ..	In-patients.	Out-patients.	Remarks.
Tamale ..	234	10,240	Operations under anaesthetic .. 30.
Wa	19	288	1.
Gambaga ..	10	842	Nil.
Salaga ..	—	—	No Medical Officer stationed here during the year.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Northern Territories Constabulary.

34. The Force maintained its high standard of discipline and general efficiency throughout the year. On his return from leave in October, the Commandant was able to inspect all the Outstation Detachments with the exception of those stationed at Bole and Yendi.

There was no increase in the Establishment or change in the organisation of the Force.

Prisons.

35. The Central Prison at Tamale is now in charge of the Commandant, Northern Territories Constabulary, and a Native Keeper of Prisons, with the following staff:—One senior Warder, one second-Class Warder, and 27 Temporary Warders.

36. All prisoners sentenced to six months' imprisonment and over undergo their terms of imprisonment in this prison, where a stricter discipline than is possible at Outstations is maintained.

37. The total number of prisoners admitted during the year was two hundred and eighteen, with a daily average number of 112 convicts. Only one prisoner escaped and he was recaptured.

38. Two executions for murder were carried out and there were three deaths.

The general health of the prisoners, who were employed chiefly in sanitary work, water carrying, repairing roads, streets and culverts and sinking wells, was good.

39. Prisoners' rations were purchased in the market by the Keeper of Prisons, and a prison farm, cultivated by the prisoners, supplied a large quantity of foodstuffs. Three meals per diem, good in quality and quantity and cooked in the Prison, were provided for prisoners at a cost of $2\frac{1}{2}$d for each man.

40. There are gaols at Yeji, Salaga, Bole, Wa, Lorha, Tumu, Navarro, Zouaragu, Gambaga and Bawku, where prisoners, whose sentences are less than six months' imprisonment, are confined. These prisoners are employed as at Tamale.

41. Summary jurisdiction obtains in the Northern Territories. The Chief Commissioner presiding in Court has full powers and jurisdiction in the Protectorate as a Judge of the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony, and, as far as it is practicable and local circumstances permit, the procedure in this Court, Civil and Criminal, is the same as that in the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony. Provincial Commissioners hear and determine all criminal offences, punishable by a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds or imprisonment for twelve months; District Commissioners by a fine not exceeding fifty pounds or imprisonment for six months.

42. The civil jurisdiction of Provincial Commissioners and District Commissioners is limited to suits in which the claims do not exceed three hundred pounds and fifty pounds respectively.

43. Every encouragement has been given to the Chiefs to exercise their authority; to hear and determine cases relating to native property, marriage and other civil actions and to uphold native laws and customs so long as they are not opposed to our ideas of justice and equity. Few appeals from decisions of the Chiefs are made to the Commissioner's Court, and, as a rule, local authority is exercised with the greatest moderation.

44. The following is a comparative table of crimes in the Protectorate during the last four years:—

	1916	1917	1918	1919
The number of Offences reported to the Police	603	583	579	587
The number of Persons apprehended by the Police or summoned before the Magistrates	603	683	579	587
The number of Summary Convictions :-				
1. For Offences against the Person	93	71	102	101
2. For Slave Dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For Offences against property other than Praedial Larceny ..	107	127	152	161
4. For Offences against Health etc. Acts	205	195	19	22
5. For Offences against Master and Servant Acts relating to Indentured Coolies	19	5	—	2
6. For other Offences	78	65	82	119
The number of Convictions in the Superior Courts :—				
1. For Offences against the Person	22	16	13	9
2. For Slave Dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For Offences against property other than Praedial Larceny	10	12	14	6
4. For Other Offences	17	15	6	1
The number of Persons acquitted :—				
1. In the Inferior Courts ..	46	81	111	148
2. In the Superior Courts ..	4	19	14	24

This table includes all cases, 78 in number, that were dealt with in the Yendi District of Togoland. As many of the more serious offences are committed by wandering aliens it may be said of the inhabitants of this Protectorate that, taken as a whole, they are both amenable and law abiding.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

45. There were no deaths among the European Officials, and but 17 were placed on the sick list for periods varying from two to forty-five days, as compared with 80 in 1918. Three were invalided from Tamale two suffering from Blackwater Fever and one from congestion of the Liver. There were, on an average, twenty officials stationed in the Northern Territories at the same time. The total number of Officials who were stationed in or passed through the Northern Territories during the year was 45, as follows :—Political—19, Medical—8, Gold Coast Regiment—11, Public Works Department—5, Northern Territories Constabulary—2.

46. Medical Officers were stationed at Tamale, Wa and Gambaga.

The following occurs in the Acting Provincial Medical Officer's Medical Report for the year under review :—

> "No Medical Officers were stationed in any of the other districts, of "which there are eight, excluding Yendi, and seven of these stations have "European Residents. There should be at least one Medical Officer at "Tamale to enable the Provincial Medical Officer to travel. The stations "are, on an average, about two or three days distant from each other "and, during the rains, travelling is not only difficult and tedious but "even dangerous in places and some time may elapse before an urgent "message can reach a Medical Officer and before he can get to whoever "is sick or injured and the delay may have serious consequences. The "installation of a complete telegraph or telephone system between all "stations, and the building of good motor roads so that Medical Officers "could travel in their districts by motor cycle or car would enable them "to receive urgent messages early and to travel rapidly all over the "districts, economising time and carriers."

47. There were no deaths, or invalidings, among the Native Officials, of whom eleven were placed on the sick list—all at Tamale—for periods varying from 2 to 46 days. The average number of Native Officials stationed in or passing through, the Protectorate was 64.

Native Population.

48. The census. completed in 1911, gave an estimated population of 361,806 to the Northern Territories, with a computed area of 31,100 square miles, an average of 11·6 persons to the square mile. The census returns

for the Southern and North-Western Provinces were considered to be fairly accurate, but those of the North-Eastern Province fell far short of being correct, and it is estimated that not more than two-thirds of the inhabitants were enumerated. Systematic work continues to be carried on in order to render the next census returns reliable in every respect and Commissioners have been provided with census books in which the names of all villages are entered and a classified register of their inhabitants kept up to date. In spite of the heavy infant mortality it is considered that the population at the present day is greatly in excess of that shown in the last census returns.

49. The general health of the natives of the Southern Province may be described as good. One thousand cases of minor sickness were attended to by the Medical Officer in villages surrounding Tamale.

50. Influenza continued its ravages in the North-Eastern Province up to the month of April 1919. The deaths recorded in this Province totalled 18,263 but are thought to have been much greater in reality, for the Commissioner reports that in many instances children were not included in the returns, while the true number of deaths at villages was sometimes withheld on account of the superstitious fears of the natives. Infant mortality is very high, as is the case in adolescence. In the Navarro-Zouaragu Districts alone it is recorded that of 8, 856 children, born and alive at five years of age, only 2,912 survived after ten years.

51. In the North-Western Province, in addition to the Influenza scourge, a serious epidemic of celebro-spinal meningitis occurred in the Lorha District, to which it was fortunately confined owing to the prompt and energetic action of the District Commissioner and Medical Officer, who took effective steps to isolate the infected areas. Deaths from this disease are said to have totalled one thousand. Small-pox broke out in the village of Olo, but the Chiefs reported this with such promptitude that the village was isolated before the disease had time to spread.

52. Leprosy is not on the increase and, while uncommon in the Southern and North-Western Provinces, is of more frequent occurrence in the North-Eastern Province. The natives look upon it as "a visitation of Allah", but say that it shows no signs of spreading and are generally averse to compulsory isolation.

Water Supply.

53. The water supply at Tamale, always inadequate, was generally improved with the establishment of a Training Centre. Ten wells have been sunk, but all are of the shallow variety and none are protected in the strict sense of the word, and but one or two are fitted with pumps.

54. The Dam, which was built across a valley near Tamale by voluntary native labour and in order to retain a large volume of surface water, was repaired in 1918, but, owing to lack of funds, not to a sufficient extent to guarantee its permanent stability.

55. The water supply at Outstations is fairly satisfactory.

Meteorological Observations.

56. The following table shows the monthly rainfall as recorded at Tamale for the last nine years :—

	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919
January ..	Nil	0·1	Nil	0·5	Nil	Nil	·28	Nil	Nil
February ..	Nil	·02	·72	Nil	Nil	Nil	1·12	·06	Nil
March ..	7·98	1·64	·72	1·63	5·65	1·54	1·54	1·28	4·74
April ..	1·68	3·75	1·57	·43	1·10	4·77	1·87	3·16	2·15
May ..	4·94	2·83	3·31	2·56	8·66	6·00	4·85	7·29	5·66
June ..	6·21	3·57	6·43	4·81	5·27	5·33	5·80	7·62	5·98
July ..	6·11	4·06	7·00	2·09	6·02	6·44	4·13	8·52	2·47
August ..	6·94	7·25	14·58	3·94	4·85	13·28	13·03	6·79	5·60
September	8·09	5·35	11·29	10·85	8·34	4·63	16·62	3·42	8·53
October ..	1·50	3·87	2·29	4·77	2·66	2·71	3·24	3·70	2·71
November	·97	Nil	Nil	2·19	Nil	1·87	·29	1·89	Nil
December	Nil	·01	Nil	Nil	·10	Nil	Nil	·72	Nil
Total	44·42	32·36	48·01	33·32	42·65	46·57	55·76	44·45	37·84

VIII.—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

57. Post and Telegraph Offiices are established at Tamale, Salaga and Yeji.

58. Owing to the shortage of qualified operators, the telegraph line between Kintampo, Bole and Wa would have remained closed had not the Commissioners' Clerks learnt the Morse Code and acted as operators. Communication is maintained between Tamale and Gambaga along the telegraph line by means of a telephone attachment.

59. Letters are received and despatched from all stations and the Commissioners have stamps for sale.

60. Telegrams were received at, and despatched from, Tamale, as compared with the previous year, as follows :—

	Received		Despatched	
	1918	1919	1918	1919
Official	3,481	3,134	4,196	3,441
Private	814	882	1,146	1,054

61. The following Statistics show the business done in the Post Office, Tamale, as compared with that of 1918 :—

	1918			1919		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Stamps sold	242	5	3½	304	5	5
Postal Orders sold	605	19	6	702	4	0
Poundage on same	8	12	4	10	9	8
Money Orders issued	246	10	7	325	4	9
Commission on same	2	17	3½	3	4	10½
Total	£1,106	5	0	£1,345	8	8½

Mails despatched South	.. 131 bags and	14 packets
Mails despatched North	.. 237 " "	16 "
Mails received South	.. 298 " "	30 "
Mails received North	.. 204 " "	27 "
	870	87

62. At Salaga, Postal Orders to the value of £184. 8. 3. and Postage Stamps to the value of £73. 19. 4 were sold, as compared with £143. 15. 0 and £53. 18. 0 during the previous year and, at Yeji, £231. 0. 5 and £42. 6. 0 as against £128. 4. 7 and £32. 8. 1.

IX.—RELIGION.

63. Three Fathers of the Roman Catholic Mission, (Pères Blancs) established at Navarro in 1908, were in residence during the year. The number of baptized native converts is now given as 239 while nine hundred natives attend the Mission.

64. Nothing has occurred to necessitate the amendment of the following, which first appeared in the Annual Report on this Protectorate for 1912.

65. The relative numbers of Christians, Mohammedans and Pagans in the Northern Territories, as shown in the Census for 1911, were as follows :—

Christians.	Mohammedans.	Pagans..
133.	42,598.	319,075.

66. Mohammedanism would appear to make little, if any, progress in this Dependency, and is, in the case of many of those professing its tenets, of a debased form, and more than tainted with the prevailing paganism. The bulk of the Mohammedan population is to be found in the Southern Province.

Larabanga, in the Bole District, is a stronghold of Mohammedans, and it is the proud boast of the Chief and Iman that not a single pagan resides in the town. The latter carefully guards an ancient copy of the Koran, bound in several volumes, which is stated to have been the property of the Mohammedan founder of Larabanga, who came from Mecca, having left his Koran behind. After many days of prayer and fasting, the Koran was miraculously restored to him at Larabanga, and has been reverenced by succeeding Imans ever since.

The Chief centres of Mohammedanism are, in the Southern Province, Tamale and its surrounding villages, Salaga, Bole and Larabanga; in the North-Eastern Province, Gambaga, Wale-Wale and Bawku; in the North-Western Province, Wa, Gurupisi, Uasa and Wahabu.

67. Although the pagan portions of the population show no great desire, as a whole, to abandon their form of belief, they exhibit no sort of resentment towards the members of other denominations. The belief of the heathen portion of the native community is primordial animism. Each town or village has its own "fetish," which is usually to be found at the entrance to the Chief Priest's compound, and takes various forms, such as a conical pile of earth, or a three-pronged stick, supporting a pot in which grows a shrub, grass, or an aquatic plant. These represent the "fetish" itself, which is recognised in many forms, as lightning, a lion, hawk, crocodile, snake, tortoise, or other animal, bird or reptile. Such "fetishes" guard and watch over the general welfare of the villages and its inhabitants and communicate with the latter through their priests. When offended, these "fetishes" are propiated by the sacrifice of sheep and goats, and of black cats or dogs.

Every family has its own "fetish", usually a conical heap of clay with a small pot sunk in its apex. It is to be seen outside every compound, and is consulted on all matters relating to the welfare of the family. Sacrifices are made to it by killing fowls over it, and allowing their blood to run into the pot and over its support; the birds' feathers then being stuck on before the blood congeals.

The "Lightning Fetish" is the most dreaded, and is universally invoked to revenge theft. No pagan would dream of attempting to arrest a conflagration caused by lightning. The veneration of ancestors also forms part of the native religious belief, and their shades are consulted through the family fetish.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

68. The relations existing between this Administration and our French neighbour and ally were cordial throughout the year and informal visits were exchanged between British and French Officials.

69. Peace Celebrations were held at all Stations in the Northern Territories on the 23rd of August and succeeding days and were attended by the local Chiefs and immense crowds of enthusiastic natives. The French Resident of Gaoua and his assistant, with a Detachment of Tirailleurs and several Chiefs, came into Lorha and took part in the Celebrations.

70. An Officer, drawn from the Political Staff of the Northern Territories, was stationed at Yendi, the Capital of Dagomba, throughout the year.

Administration.

71. The Chief Commissioner administered the Protectorate for the first five months of the year, when he proceeded on leave of absence. Major H. Walker Leigh continued to act for him until the end of the year.

72. The shortage of Administrative Officers throughout the year necessitated the administration of the Yeji District, in the Southern Province, and of the Zouaragu District, in the North-Eastern Province by the Commissioners of the Salaga and Zouaragu Districts respectively, while the Tumu District in the North-Western Province was administered during the last three months of the year by the Commissioner of the Lorha District.

Native Affairs.

73. The year was one of profound peace and quietness throughout the Protectorate, and the relations existing between the Chiefs, the Administration, themselves and their people were most satisfactory and in all cases left little to be desired. Reported trouble among the natives of the Bawku District in the early part of the year proved, on investigation by the Chief Commissioner, to have been very much exaggerated; originating, as it did, in the action of three young men who defied the Commissioner and raised the War Cry while under the influence of native brewed liquor.

74. The old men, especially those living in the Northern Provinces, continue to be a thorn in the flesh of the Administration. They live in the past, oblivious of the miseries that they endured in their youth and before the advent of the whiteman, and remembering only the fact that everyman was a law unto himself and could murder, rape and loot with impunity so long as he was strong enough to protect himself. They retain a fanatical hatred for the Chiefs, whose rapidly growing authority is repugnant to them, and do all in their power to undermine it and to prevent the youth of the country from getting into touch with civilization. Strangely enough, the Influenza passed by these reactionaries of a past generation, who are, however, slowly dying out.

Gold Coast Regiment, Tamale.

75. The Training Centre, established at Tamale in October 1917, ceased to exist, as such, at the end of 1918, and its complement was replaced by "A" Company of the Gold Coast Regiment.

Roads.

76. Existing roads were maintained throughout the Protectorate and new ones constructed to link up the larger villages. In this work the Commissioners have received great assistance from the Chiefs, who, to-day, look upon it as a personal disgrace if they have not good, well kept, roads leading to their villages.

The Main Road from Prang to Tamale is now under construction and repair as a Motor Road. This work is being carried out by the Public Works Department.

Rest Houses.

77. There are 78 Rest Houses situated in the Southern, 115 in the North-Eastern, and 103 in the North-Western, Provinces. They are usually of the "Round House" type, with conical thatched roof, and stand in large compounds surrounded, in most cases, by thick "swish" walls. Their repair and upkeep is in the hands of the Chiefs.

Ferries.

78. Two ferries under Government control and at which tolls are collected are situated on the Volta River at Yeji and the Dakar at its confluence with the Volta.

The Tolls for the year at the Yeji Ferry amounted to £1,230. 17. 6 as against £1,402. 5. 0 in 1918.

The takings at the Dakar River Ferry dwindled during the year, the total receipts being but £125. This Ferry was closed at the end of the year.

79. Steel Pontoons have been placed on the Pru River at Prang; on the Yamalaga River on the main road to Tamale; on the Nabugu and Nasia Rivers on the Tamale-Gambaga Road, and at Adere on the Black Volta River on the Kintampo-Bole Road, in the Southern Province, but all these, including those at the Yeji Ferry, are practically worn out and are now weighted down with the cement used in their repair.

80. Two cable ferries, constructed and maintained by the French Administration, free of all tolls, are situated on the Black Volta River at the Baghari-Manoa and Metor-Dapola crossings near Lorha. A wooden pontoon has been placed on the Konyokuom River in the Lorha District, at a spot where a large number of traders cross. Many other ferries are in use on all the Volta Rivers—Black, Red and White—and some of their tributaries, and are worked by the local chiefs

Transport.

81. The Motor Lorry Service for the despatch of Government Stores runs from Coomassie to Attabubu, when loads are transported to Yeji by carriers and by the Volta River in canoes to Yapei, (Tamale Port), or alternatively, by carrier transport to Salaga and Tamale.

82. No permanent gangs are employed in the Protectorate for transport. The demand for carriers is extremely heavy in the Southern Province of the Protectorate, close on 3,000 natives having been so employed during the year.

83. Within the North-Eastern and North-Western Provinces "post to post" —i.e. "stage to stage"—carriers are employed by the Commissioners when travelling. Natives so employed are away from their villages for only one day and the question of food supplies—often a serious question when permanent carriers are engaged—does not arise. Local carriers are paid at the rate of 6d per diem.

Public Works.

84. Owing to the system of rigid economy, as practised in this Protectorate from the commencement of the war and during the year under review, no works of sufficient importance for record were undertaken, but all buildings were maintained in a state of repair.

85. The Provincial Commissioner's House at Gambaga was struck by lightning on the 5th September, and was completely destroyed by fire. Fortunately no loss of life or property resulted.

Immigration and Emigration.

86. A few Fulanis arrive from time to time to settle in the Northern portions of the Protectorate, where they take charge of the herds of cattle belonging to the local natives. A number of natives from Haut Senegal Niger travelled through the Northern Territories on their way to Ashanti, there to find employment.

87. There is a migratory period every year towards Coomassie, commencing about the end of August. A considerable number of boys then go down to find work, but, in course of time, most of these find their way back to their country, many returning in April or May. Gangs of boys are usually conducted by a native who has been to Coomassie before and their members each carry with them a scanty supply of food and little else.

Labour.

88. Unskilled labour at the rate of 6d per diem is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain; nor can this be wondered at when so many of the natives have realized that, by going to Coomassie, they can readily obtain from 1s. to 2s. per diem for their services. All skilled labour is obtained from the Colony or Ashanti at a daily rate of from 1s. 9d. to 3s. 6d.

89. The shortage of Silver, and the substitution for it of a paper currency, has been already mentioned as having produced an adverse effect on the labour problem throughout the Colony and its Dependencies.

Suitability of climate for Europeans and Openings for White Labour.

90. The climate of the Northern Territories, while similar to that of the Gold Coast and Ashanti, may be said, in comparison with them, to be more trying in its extremes. It possesses an insidious quality that lowers the vitality of Europeans and renders unduly prolonged residence on their part inadvisable and it is generally recognised that a period of recuperation in a more bracing and salubrious climate is necessary after a year's stay in the country.

There are no openings at present for white labour.

C. H. ARMITAGE,

Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories.

Tamale,

26th May, 1919.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1049	Ceylon	1919
1050	Gibraltar	1919–1920
1051	Somaliland	,,
1052	Zanzibar	1919
1053	Gambia	,,
1054	Uganda	1918–1919
1055	Malta	1919–1920
1056	Swaziland	,,
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	,,
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919–1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	,,
1061	Seychelles	,,
1062	Mauritius	,,
1063	St. Vincent	April–December 1919
1064	Nigeria	1919
1065	Sierra Leone	,,
1066	Gold Coast	,,
1067	Jamaica	1919–1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
1070	British Honduras	,,
1071	Hong Kong	,,
1072	Barbados	1919–1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918–1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919–1920
1075	Nyasaland	,,
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	,,
1079	Uganda	1919–1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1105.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1082.)

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

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CONTENTS.

		Page
I.	Financial	3
II.	Trade, Agriculture and Industries	4
III.	Legislation	9
IV.	Education	9
V.	Government Institutions	10
VI.	Judicial Statistics	10
VII.	Vital Statistics	13
VIII.	Posts and Telegraphs	14
IX.	Religion	15
X.	General Observations	15

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR 1920.

I.—FINANCIAL.

1. Tables of Revenue and Expenditure are not shewn, it being impossible to assess even approximate figures for either.

2. There is no direct taxation, the people contributing indirectly by means of import duties, railway charges, etc. As these are collected in the Colony in bulk, it would be difficult, as well as serving no good purpose, to separate them between the Colony, Ashanti, and the Northern Territories, which for the estimation of the financial position must be taken together.

3. It is necessary to note however—as has been done so often by my predecessors—that the Colony and Ashanti depend very largely on this Protectorate for labour and for soldiers, as well as for much of their meat supply.

4. I should like to quote here from the speech of Sir Hugh Clifford in 1919 to the Legislative Council :—

> "The great service, however, which the Northern Territories "render to the rest of the Gold Coast lies in the supply of man-power "which it affords. Large and increasing numbers of young men from "this Dependency annually visit the Colony and Ashanti in search "of work. There is no recruiting machinery in operation, the immigra- "tion being voluntary ; but the supply of able-bodied men which the "Dependency has provided of recent years for work in the Gold Mines "and for the transport of cocoa has represented an appreciable percen- "tage of the total available labour for the Colony and Ashanti alike.
>
> "The Northern Territories have rendered an even more important "service to the Gold Coast by providing, by voluntary enlistment, "ninety *per centum* of the rank and file of the Regiment which bears "this Colony's name. The natives of this Dependency represent the "best fighting material which the Gold Coast produces, and the splendid "record of loyalty, heroism and courage which the Gold Coast Regiment "has established for itself in Togoland, in the Kameruns, and in German "and Portuguese East Africa, shows how fine is the quality of that "material."

5. The small items of revenue, which are collectable in the Protectorate all shew increases over the previous year. These items are Firearm and Hunting licences, Ferry tolls, Court Fees and Fines, Market fees, and Miscellaneous, the total amounting to £2,770, as against £2,249 in 1919.

6. Local expenditure was greater than in 1919. This was principally due to Personal Emoluments, which show a large increase owing to the improvement of all salaries.

7. A considerable sum of money was spent on completing the road from Yeji, through Tamale, to Gambagá.

8. Coinage. It is a relief to be able to report that this troublesome question seems to have been set at rest, I hope finally, by the introduction of a nickel bronze coinage. The natives have accepted it whole-heartedly. Indeed it would seem better for this country than the old silver coinage, as it does not lend itself to the manufacture of ornaments, and therefore remains in circulation.

9. The holed nickel coinage of 1d, ½d and $\frac{1}{10}$d. is now available for distribution in considerable quantities. The $\frac{1}{10}$d. especially is most popular up North where it has taken the place of cowries in the markets. It is being sent up as fast as its bulk will allow.

10. Paper Currency is unsuitable for the conditions prevailing here and cannot be popular for many years. This is not because it is not understood, but rather from the fact it perishes rapidly from climatic conditions, and the ravages of ants, and that it is hard to get change for the higher denominations.

II.—TRADE.

Imports and Exports.

11. Trade statistics consisting of the number of animals and loads passing through are kept at the Trade Centres, but it would be misleading to place reliance on the figures, as many caravans travel at night and so are not counted at all—while others are conceivably counted twice.

12. The figures that are supplied however enable the condition of any particular industry to be gauged with reasonable accuracy.

13. Imports from the Colony consist principally of :—

English Cloths,
English Beads,
Salt (from Addah),
Dried Fish (from the Coast Towns),
Kola (mostly in transit from Ashanti to the North).

Exports consist of :—

Cattle,
Sheep (in transit from French Country to the Colony),
Horses,
Kola (in transit North),
Shea butter,
Hides,
Dawa Dawa (made from Locust bean),
Native Cloths.

14. Trade was bad during the year though it recovered somewhat during the later months.

This was due to various obvious causes :—

i. The paucity of English goods and their exorbitant price.

ii. Shortage of cash, and general stagnation.

iii. Prevalence of rinderpest and consequent stoppage of the export of cattle from French Country.

iv. The prevalence of cerebro-spinal meningitis, which rendered it necessary to close all trade routes for some time.

15. English cloths are still very dear and of poor quality, but a small improvement of some 4,000 loads occurred, chiefly at the end of the year. The same remarks apply to beads.

16. Salt. This trade, which is in the hands of the people of Addah, was normal.

17. Dried fish from the Coast showed an increase. Doubtless it replaced the tinned herrings which before the war were a popular and cheap article of food.

18. Kola is exported from Ashanti in immense quantities—generally on donkeys. This year hardly any donkeys came down—having been, I am told, commandeered by the French for military purposes.

19. 15,000 fewer donkey loads but 19,000 more head loads passed through the Southern Province alone.

20. The amount of money engaged in this trade is very great. It is entirely in the hands of the Mohammedans who distribute the nuts all over Mohammedan Africa.

21. The total amount of loads of the commodity going North can be estimated at 100,000 at least. The trade appears to be increasing.

22. Horses. Very few came down. They were of mediocre quality, but fetched high prices, £15 to £20.

23. Cattle. This trade showed a serious falling off, due to many causes :—

i. The great proportion of cattle comes from French territory. Rinderpest was very bad there, and in consequence, export of animals was either stopped or much restricted.

ii. The demand in French country is greater owing to the establishment of a canning factory at Bammako.

iii. Closing of the routes owing to cerebro-spinal meningitis and the consequent disorganization of the trade.

The number registered as entering the country show 29,423 as against 56,851 in 1919. This is a situation which demands serious consideration, as the Colony depends on this source of supply for its meat.

24. Sheep and Goats. 13,000 were registered, as against 61,000 in 1919.

25. Native cloths made from yarns spun in the country and woven on primitive looms are increasingly popular. A large increase took place in their distribution, no doubt owing to the inflated prices of Manchester cloths.

26. Shea butter and Dawa Dawa, the latter being prepared from the Locust bean, form a very important article of commerce between this Territory and Ashanti and the Colony. Both fats find a ready market at prices higher than they would fetch at home. The supply is restricted by the difficulties of getting to market.

27. In this connection, I would quote the Governor who said in his address to the Legislative Council in 1920 :—

> "And I repeat now what I said last month in this Chamber that the "whole future of the Gold Coast is bound up with the development "of the ground-nut and shea butter industries of the Northern "Territories.
>
> "I have been there and seen them both growing. I have seen "millions of acres of country where ground-nuts are indigenous and can "grow in prodigious quantities without the constant labour of clearing "the forest and bush of the Colony and Ashanti. And I know that the "people of the Northern and more inaccessible parts of the country "will migrate for the farming season to the Southern parts where the "ground-nut grows, returning to their homes after the harvest just as "they do now from the Colony and Ashanti.
>
> "With a railway there, and a deep-water harbour at the end of it, "we should have 300 less miles of railway transport and 300 miles less "of sea transport than Nigeria to the markets of the world.
>
> "As for the shea-nut, we should be in an unrivalled position. "I have seen thousands of acres of nuts rotting on the ground—thou-"sands of acres of trees of which the nut-crops on one side have been "destroyed by the annual fires—a loss easily avertible by the cultiva-"tion of surrounding belts of ground-nuts."

28. It will be seen that at present trade is carried on under the most primitive conditions. The pending advent of motor transport—together with the increasing demand from the South for all kinds of foodstuffs—will revolutionize trade here even before the railway comes. We may expect Coast traders to come up and establish depots for the collection of such articles as Yams, Shea butter, Dawa Dawa, Native cloth, Guinea corn, Millet, Fowls etc., all of which are in great demand, and will fetch remunerative prices when sent down by road or river.

AGRICULTURE.

29. Crops were excellent throughout the country.

They consist principally of Yams, Guinea corn, Millet, Ground-nuts, Beans, Tobacco and Sweet potatoes. Maize is grown in certain districts.

30. The area under cultivation is increasing yearly, as the demand for foodstuffs grows, and it is certain that in the near future this Dependency will become a supplying area for the Cocoa districts where insufficient foodstuffs are produced to supply the large towns.

The people are keen and industrious farmers.

Agricultural Stations.

31. Tamale. The rotation experiment with Cotton, Rice and leguminous crops was continued in the season 1919-1920.

Black Rattler cotton yielded 173 lbs. seed cotton per acre, as against 151 lbs. in the previous year.

Manured cotton gave 320 lbs. seed to the acre, and unmanured 182 lbs. All plots showed improvement, the total seed in lbs. being 1,774 lbs.

32. Rice of the American variety yielded 505 lbs. per acre. Bondobi came next with 310 lbs. It is hoped to develop this crop extensively.

33. Ground-nuts and Beans of various sorts were planted on ground used for rice the previous season. Ground-nuts were a failure, Bambarra beans yielded 642 lbs. per acre, Geocarpa 356 lbs. per acre, and Pigeon peas 175 lbs. per acre.

34. Fibres. The following fibre extractions were carried out by prison labour.

	Leaves.	Weight.	Result in fibre.
Mauritius Hemp ..	1,000	1,865 lbs.	29 lbs.
Sisal Hemp	7,650	9,412 lbs.	394 lbs.

35. The Kapok trees planted amongst the Sisal hemps were a failure.

36. The experiments with regard to Ashanti maize were not completed. It grew well on two small plots, but the green cobs were distributed. No returns have been received from three outstations to which some seed was sent.

37. Timber. The teak on plot 20 is doing well and seeding freely, but on 15½ acres planted out at stake most of the young trees died from drought.

1½ acres of Mahogany seedlings planted out are doing exceptionally well. This experiment will be extended.

Revenue from various sales amounted to £31 5s. 0d.

38. Small stations are maintained at Wa and Gambaga.

No report is to hand from the fine Station at Yendi, where the Curator will in future reside.

39. In the absence of the Veterinary Department the herd of cattle was in charge of the Curator. It numbered 46 head. Towards the end of the year signs of illness appeared, and the herd was handed over to the Veterinary Officer, who had returned to the Northern Territories.

Cattle.

40. The Cattle of the Northern Territories are of the small unhumped variety, as distinguished from the Zebu, or humped animals that come down from the North.

14. The Veterinary Officer, who submitted a most valuable report on the Live-stock of the Northern Territories (Gold Coast Government Press, 1920.—Report on Live-Stock Industries of the Northern Territories) to which those especially interested are referred, describes these Cattle as small symmetrical compact animals very much like a miniature short-horn. They are slow in development and reach their full size at the age of six, seven or eight years. If allowed to reach their full development they shape into very fine animals and would compete against some of the small European fancy breeds such as Dexter and Kerry.

No attention whatever up to date has been paid to breeding or selection, and in consequence the herds are weedy and undersized.

42. The number at the beginning of the year was estimated at 68,500. Cattle sickness (Rinderpest), was rife during the year, and very large quantities died. No part of the country was free from it. A Census is being taken during 1921 when it will be possible to compute the losses suffered.

43. Very few of these cattle are driven down to the Coast for food—nearly all the butchers meat being the humped Zebu cattle which merely pass through the Northern Territories from the North.

44. The potentialities of this country as an area for raising cattle were investigated by an expert sent out by interested parties from England. I have not seen his report, but I have reason to believe that it was not too favourable owing to the prevalence of so many tsetse fly belts.

Other Live Stock.

45. Sheep and Goats were estimated at 153,000. They are mostly small and in bad need of good sires. These animals however have not suffered so much from in-breeding as others owing to the considerable numbers of large Hausa sheep that constantly come down the road. Their flesh is succulent and tender.

46. There are estimated 1,097 horses and 2,300 donkeys, and only 320 pigs. The small number of the latter is due to the fact that the live-stock trade is in the hands of Mohammedans.

47. Outside the fly belts horses do well. They are bred up North in French country; no mares are allowed to come down. The breed shows Arab traces but all are small and weedy.

INDUSTRIES.

48. Agriculture is the chief industry throughout the country.

Large quantities of Native cloths are now made, this trade having received a great fillip from the high prices asked for English goods. Towards the end of the year many loads of these cloths were sent down to the Colony.

49. Three English hand looms were brought out in December and are now being set up. It is hoped that the native weavers will adopt their use, and so make cloth 30 inches or more wide instead of three inches as at present.

50. Other industries for local consumption include iron and leather working, pot making, baskets, ornaments, etc.

51. An excellent quality of cord and string is being made in the Zouaragu district from hibiscus fibre. This has been successfully used in the Government offices.

MINERALS.

52. Traces of Gold and Alluvial Deposits have been found in the Wa and Bole Districts and marketable Mica has been traced in the North-Eastern Province, but up to now owing to transport difficulties no serious attempt to develop the mineral resources has been made.

III.—LEGISLATION.

53. The following Ordinances were applied to the Northern Territories during the year :—

1. Amending Northern Territories Ordinance.
2. Amending Northern Territories Administration Ordinance. Substituting Chief Commissioner for Governor in Spirituous Liquors Ordinance.
3. Second further Amendment Ordinance. Applying Opium Ordinance.
4. Third further Amendment Ordinance. Adding Extensions of Criminal Code.
5. To revise the printed edition of Laws.
6. Imposing Imports and Exports Restriction Ordinance.
7. Imposing Mixed Nickel Currency Ordinance.
8. West African Compassionate Gratuity Ordinance.
9. Imposing the Census Ordinance.
10. Evidence (Colonial Statutes) Northern Territories Ordinance.
11. Post Office Charlatanic Uses Ordinance.
12. Amending Infectious Diseases Ordinance.

IV.—EDUCATION.

54. The Government Primary School at Tamale is at present the only one in the Southern Province.

The total number of pupils on the register is 85, with an average daily attendance of 60.34, as compared with 56 in 1919 and 57 in 1918.

55. Progress is disappointing, but the reason for the comparative failure is not far to seek. Most of the pupils are not natives of Tamale, and lodging and food is hard to get. A native may send his son to school, but it is difficult to get him to provide for him while there, in consequence the boy boards himself out as house-boy in return for his services, and has this to do in addition to his school work. He often goes to school already tired and in many cases much underfed.

56. A new school building is in course of erection at Tamale, but was not finished at the end of the year.

57. At Gambaga, the Government School had 42 pupils, but the Commissioner reports the results to be not altogether satisfactory, mainly from the reasons given above in the case of the Tamale School.

58. At Wa, the Government School is progressing and is favourably reported on by the Commissioner. The number on the roll is 50, and the average attendance 42.

59. At Lorha, the average attendance is 41.

The White Fathers at Navarro have had to close their school for lack of funds.

60. Mohammedan Schools exist at all the more prominent Mohammedan centres. Education consists in learning parts of the Koran by heart.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

61. In addition to those Government institutions that are mentioned under "Education" and "Judicial," there are Government Native Hospitals established at Tamale, Salaga and Bole, Wa, Tumu and Lorha, Gambaga and Zouaragu.

62. Those at Tamale and Salaga are permanent buildings, the others of adobe bricks with grass roofs.

63. Owing to the lack of Medical Officers, very little advantage is taken of these institutions.

The few natives that come in to be treated by the native dressers get tired if a marvellously rapid cure is not effected, and go back to their native medicines.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

Northern Territories Constabulary.

64. During the year this force was increased by the following additions to its personnel.

1 Adjutant,
2 Assistant Commandants
50 Rank and File.

65. Captain Massie was appointed Adjutant, and the Assistant Commandantships were in process of being filled at the end of the year.

The additional rank and file has been recruited.

66. Unfortunately Captain Fowler, the Commandant, died of pneumonia in November, when on leave, and the Force lost a most valuable officer.

Discipline was thoroughly maintained, and this fine body of men kept up its reputation for efficiency and smartness.

The additions to its strength will provide for the policing of that part of Togoland that is to be administered by the Northern Territories Staff, and will also enable the outlying detachments to be inspected with much more frequency.

Prisons.

67. Central Prison, Tamale. This prison takes in all Northern Territories convicts who are sentenced to more than six months.

It is superintended by the Commandant, Northern Territories Constabulary, and is staffed by a Native Keeper of Prisons, one Senior Warder, one Second-class Warder, and an average of 26 Temporary Warders.

68. 309 prisoners were admitted during the year, the average daily number being 99.9.

There were two escapes, and no recaptures.

69. One capital sentence was carried out. There were six deaths. General health was good.

70. The work performed by the prisoners is mostly extramural, and consists of sanitary work, water carrying, road work, well-sinking, etc.

Discipline was excellent.

The total cost of the prison for the year was £7,193.

71. Gaols for short sentence prisoners exist at Yeji, Salaga, Bole, Wa, Lorha, Tumu, Navarro, Zouaragu, Gambaga and Bawku.

72. The Chief Commissioner's Court is the Court of superior jurisdiction in criminal and civil matters for the Protectorate. The Chief Commissioner and the Circuit Judge exercise concurrent jurisdiction in this court; except that the Chief Commissioner deals principally with civil cases involving native law, while the Circuit Judge deals principally with civil cases involving English law. The Circuit Judge deals also with criminal cases generally; and he alone has jurisdiction in capital cases. The procedure in this court is regulated by the Administration Ordinance of 1902, and follows the general lines of that in vogue in the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony. The Jury system is not however in use in the Protectorate.

73. Provincial Commissioners have powers to try summarily offences punishable by a fine up to £100, or imprisonment for twelve months, District Commissioners being limited to £50 and six months respectively. More serious offences are committed for trial before the Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories.

74. Civil Jurisdiction is also exercised by Provincial Commissioners and District Commissioners in suits not exceeding claims for £200 and £50 respectively, all others going to the Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories.

75. Native Chiefs have power to try cases referring to native customs, marriage, etc. They are encouraged to exercise their power, and seem to do so wisely and well, as few appeals are lodged.

76. Comparative table of Crimes for the last four years :—

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
The number of Offences reported to the Police	583	579	587	61
The number of Persons apprehended by the Police or summoned before the Magistrate	583	579	587	616
The number of Summary Convictions :-				
1. For Offences against the Person	71	102	101	112
2. For Slave Dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For Offences against property other than praedial Larceny ..	127	152	161	155
4. For Offences against Health etc. Acts	195	19	21	151
5. For Offences against Master and Servant Acts including Acts relating to indentured labour ..	5	—	2	23
6. For other Offences	65	82	119	87
The number of Convictions in the Superior Courts :—				
1. For Offences against the Person	16	13	9	2
2. For Slave Dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For Offences against property other than Praedial Larceny ..	12	14	6	2
4. For other Offences	15	6	1	8
The number of Persons acquitted :—				
1. In the Inferior Courts	81	111	1 8	73
2. In the Superior Courts ..	19	14	24	3

77. These figures include Yendi which was administered throughout the year. Forty offences were reported there.

The small increase under Head 5. is due to labourers of one or two gangs taking their subsistence, and then deserting.

There was a considerable increase in prosecutions under the Health Acts. These are invariably for trivial offences against Sanitary rules, and the penalty is never more than a few shillings fine.

The absence of premeditated crime is extraordinary, and speaks volumes for the law-abiding nature of the people. Practically all the reported offences were due to the impulse or passion of the moment.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

78. European Officials in the Protectorate numbered 36. There was one death from blackwater at Yeji, and one was invalided from the same cause from Tamale.

Eighteen individuals were on the sick list for a total of 181 days.

The Provincial Medical Officer reports that considering the very trying climate, and the conditions of life, the health of officials during the year may be classed as good.

One official died when on leave from pneumonia.

79. Native Officials numbered 54. There were no deaths, and only 12 cases on the sick list.

80. In addition there were four European Ladies, three White Fathers, and one Syrian Trader. The latter died of chronic alcoholism, but there was no sickness amongst the others.

81. The health of the constabulary, the Company of the West African Frontier Force, and the prisoners was good.

82. Medical Officers were stationed at Tamale, Wa and Gambaga, with dispensers or nurses at Tamale, Salaga, Gambaga, Zouaragu and Wa.

83. The Provincial Medical Officer reports that the Protectorate was understaffed with Medical Officers, and strongly recommends an increase of staff as early as possible.

Native Population.

84. The computed area of the country is 31,100 square miles and the population ten years ago was reckoned at 361,806, or an average of 11.6 to the mile. A Census is being taken in 1921 and it is thought that in spite of cerebro-spinal meningitis and influenza, the population will be found to have considerably increased.

85. The population is most unevenly distributed—the districts in the North being thickly inhabited, while the Southern Province is only sparsely populated.

86. A very serious attack of cerebro-spinal meningitis occurred during

the year. This disease is now held to be endemic, and appears annually in the dry season.

87. It started this year in the Lorha District at the extreme North-west during January, and spread rapidly southwards, and even entered Ashanti, supposedly for the first time.

88. Every effort with the limited staff available was made to combat its spread, but it continued until the rains.

The deaths numbered about 3,000.

89. A close study of it was made on the spot by Doctor Dalziel, the Senior Sanitary Officer, and I would refer those interested to his careful and valuable report published at Accra (Sessional Paper VI.—1919—1920).

Meteorological Observations.

90. The following table shows the annual rainfall as recorded at Tamale for the last ten years :—

1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
44.42	32.36	48.01	33.32	42.65	46.57	55.76	44.45	37.8	36.95

An average of 42.23.

VIII.—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

91. This year saw the opening of the motor road through from the south to Tamale, and now mails come in by motor. The service was very irregular, owing to the vagaries of the transport, but nevertheless showed an improvement over the old system of head loads.

92. There are post and telegraph offices at Tamale, Salaga and Yeji. These three offices, which are all on the same line of wire from the south, dealt with 37,050 messages.

93. Salaga dealt with 1,291 bags of mails for the Eastern part of the country.

94. From Tamale to the North, the mails are carried by runners supplied by the Chiefs on monthly contracts. This service has been satisfactorily maintained.

95. On the Western side, there is a telegraph line to, and a Post Office at, Wa, but owing to there being no Post Office staff it has had to be worked by the Political Clerks. It is interesting to note that these men have learnt the code and kept the line open quite satisfactorily throughout the year.

On this side also all mails are carried by weekly runners.

IX.—RELIGION.

96. The bulk of the people are pagans—but there are large numbers of Mohammedans.

97. Christianity has made little impression as yet. At Navarro, the Pères Blancs have a Roman Catholic Mission. There were three Fathers in residence throughout the year. They claim 245 converted Christians, and about 900 attendants at their services.

98. There are no other Missions in the Country, but the Clerks at Tamale hold a weekly service in the Court House.

99. The relations between Mohammedans and Pagans and a short descriptio of the latter appeared in last year's report, and I quote it again :—

"Although the Pagan portions of the population show no great "desire, as a whole, to abandon their form of belief, they exhibit no "sort of resentment towards the members of other denominations. "The belief of the heathen portion of the native community is primor- "dial animism. Each town or village has its own 'fetish,' which is "usually to be found at the entrance to the Chief Priest's compound "and takes various forms, such as a conical pile of earth, or a three- "pronged stick, supporting a pot in which grows a shrub, grass, or an "aquatic plant. These represent the 'fetish' itself, which is recognised "in many orms, as lightning, a lion, hawk, crocodile, snake, tortoise, "or other animal, bird or reptile. Such 'fetishes' guard and watch "over the general welfare of the villages and its inhabitants and com- "municate with the latter through their Priests. When offended, "these 'fetishes' are propitiated by the sacrifice of sheep and goats, "and of black cats or dogs.

"Every family has its own 'fetish,' usually a conical heap of clay "with a small pot sunk in its apex. It is to be seen outside every com- "pound, and is consulted on all matters relating to the welfare of the "family. Sacrifices are made to it by killing fowls over it, and allowing "their blood to run into the pot and over its support; the birds' "feathers then being stuck on before the blood congeals.

"The 'Lightning Fetish' is the most dreaded, and is universally "invoked to revenge theft. No pagan would dream of attempting "to arrest a conflagration caused by lightning. The veneration of "ancestors also forms part of the native religious belief, and their "shades are consulted through the family fetish."

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Political.

100. Relations with the French, who now surround us on all sides except the South, have been most cordial Numerous visits have been

interchanged, and local assistance to each other frequently given by the Officers of both nations.

101. The country throughout the year was in a state of profound peace. The Lobis however—a tribe in the far north-west—which is divided into two by the Anglo-French frontier—have been giving the French some trouble. They completely flouted all authority and at the end of the year were in a state of anarchy. As there is considerable jealousy between the French Lobis and those on this side of the Frontier, it was feared that the temporary withdrawal of the French troops might be taken advantage of in order to make raids across the border; consequently a force of 50 Northern Territories Constabulary was sent up to patrol the boundary. This was successful and nothing whatever occurred, and towards the end of the year it was found possible to withdraw most of the detachment.

102. A member of the Northern Territories Political Staff was stationed at Yendi throughout the year, and administered that part of Togo under the political control of the Chief Commissioner.

Administration.

103. The Chief Commissioner, Captain C. H. Armitage, C.M.G., D.S.O., was promoted to be Governor of the Gambia. He proceeded direct there from here, handing over to his successor Mr. A. J. Philbrick in December.

104. The shortage of Political Officers rendered it necessary to double up the Districts of Yeji and Salaga, Lorha and Tumu and Navarro-Zouaragu.

Native Affairs.

105. Relations between the Government and the Natives, both Chiefs and people, were excellent.

106. Between the Chiefs and people there were very few disturbances. In a large part of the country it is a new thing to have Chiefs in authority; each man who owned a compound was a law unto himself. The institution of an elected Chief was much resented by the old men in the Northern Province, but the people as a whole are now accepting it.

107. Southern Province and Yendi. A new King was put on the stool of Yendi andthe occasion was taken to join up again the whole of the Dagomba Natives who had been divided by the Anglo-German boundary.

108. The candidate selected was the proper one, being the old semi-blind Chief of Savelugu. He resigned at once on account of his declining health, and in his place Abudulai, the Regent, was unanimously selected. This caused great joy to all Dagombas. A few days after the Chief of Savelugu died and his stool is still vacant.

109. No other native affairs of importance occurred in the North-eastern and North-western Provinces.

Roads.

110. The year was an important one as regards the improvement of communications throughout the country.

111. The main road from the South was repaired and remade up to Tamale—a distance of 122 miles from Prang. This road, though not yet furnished with permanent bridges all through, is now fit for carrying motor traffic and will be open all the year for its entire length except in exceptional flood times.

112. From Tamale it has been extended to Nasia and Gambaga (100½ miles). This section is open for motor traffic except during the rains.

113. The above two roads were under the supervision of the Public Works Department—paid labour being supplied by the Chiefs.

114. From Nasia a branch road has been made fit for motor traffic in the dry weather to Paragu, Nangodi, Zouaragu, Navarro and Sandema.

115. The road to Yendi from Tamale (70 miles) has been remade and provisionally bridged, and is now open to motor traffic.

116. In the Western Province, motor roads suitable for dry weather traffic were completed to Lorha, Tumu and the Navarro boundary, and Southwards to the Bole district boundary.

117. A map is attached shewing this development*.

Rest Houses.

118. Of these there are no less than 296 in the country. They are of the Round Hut type, and generally consist of a cluster of these huts surrounded by a wall.

119. They are in charge of the local Chiefs and are kept, as a rule, in excellent condition.

Ferries.

120. In the Southern Province there are 15 ferries, all worked by the Chiefs who own them, except :—

Yeji Ferry. Worked by Government. This ferry carries the main road traffic over the Volta. The receipts were £1,423 15s. 6d. as against £1,230 17s. 8d. in 1919. An annual rent of £220 is paid to the Chief of Yeji, and the expenses of upkeep, which are heavy, are paid by the Government. During the year pontoons consisting of large canoes joined together by deck planks were constructed. On these motor cars are transported with reasonable safety and speed.

i. Buipe Ferry. This is on the direct road from Kintampo to Daboya, and is much used by traders. It was taken over by the Government late in the year owing to complaints having

* Not printed.

been received. It is maintained by the Government, and one-third of the gross takings go to the Chief who owns it.

121. In the North-western Province are two cable ferries across the Volta worked by the French.

122. In the North-western Province are various small ferries worked by the Chiefs, who charge small dues.

Transport.

123. The advent of motor transport between Coomassie and Tamale is effecting a great change in the country, and like most changes it has caused considerable inconvenience and discomfort which, however, in no way counter-balanced the immense advantage gained.

124. Owing to mechanical troubles there was a great shortage of lorries and, in consequence, loads could not be brought up, one result being that all building and Public Works Department operations had to be shut down. Mails also were much delayed.

125. The use of motors has freed a very large number of men who used to be carriers. They now go down and work on the new railways and on the mines.

126. Some idea of the amount of traffic will be given by the figures for the five lorries stationed at Salaga during November and December, the only months available.

They ran 12,038 miles, and dealt with 1,900 loads.

Apart from this main road, all transport is done by head load.

Topographical Survey.

127. Maps giving details were supplied to the Surveyor General for use in the new Wall Map of the Colony.

Public Works.

128. At Tamale, a Court House for the Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories and a new school building were begun, but could not be finished owing to the shortage of materials.

129. A stone bungalow is in course of erection at Gambaga, to replace the one destroyed by lightning last year.

130. No other public works of importance were in hand, but at all stations small works were undertaken by the Commissioners and all existing buildings were kept in proper repair.

Labour.

131. There is practically no skilled labour in the country, all is imported from the Colony proper, at high rates of wages.

132. The unskilled labour of the Northern Territories is in great demand throughout the Colony, where there was a pronounced shortage throughout the year. This was due to various causes—principally the increase of Cocoa farming, the large Government programme, and the absence of boys from other Colonies, who were able to find work in their own countries, or who were prohibited from leaving them.

133. An organized system of recruiting labour for the railway extension, Public Works and Mines was introduced. Gangs of 25 men with a headman were collected, given metal numbers, and sent down to the works. They were paid at the rate of 1s. 6d. per diem, 6d. of which was retained until the end of their service of six months duration.

134. The following number were recruited in this way :—

Southern Province	600
Western Province	1,600
Eastern Province	1,475
Yendi	690
Total ..	4,365

On their return it is hoped that a further supply will be available.

135. Very large numbers also engaged themselves to work on the roads locally—probably over 2,000 in the Southern Province alone.

Gold Coast Regiment.

136. A company of the Regiment was stationed at Tamale throughout the year.

Climate.

137. The climate is singularly hot and trying, and is very lowering to vitality, and irritating to the nervous system.

138. The months of February and March are generally very hot, and the whole country is infested with flies and with mosquitos.

There are no openings whatever for white labour.

General.

139. His Excellency the Governor and his staff visited the Northern Territories in April. It had been his intention to hold a large Durbar at Tamale, but in view of the fact that cerebro-spinal meningitis was very prevalent at the time, it was thought more prudent not to bring in large numbers of people.

140. His Excellency made a speech to the Dagombas and Gonjas who were assembled, and touched on the importance of agriculture and transport. He pointed out the necessity for supplying labour to complete the railways in the Colony.

He distributed medals for acts of special bravery to four men of the regiment.

Visits were paid to Yendi and Salaga and addresses given at each place.

ARTHUR J. PHILBRICK,
Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories.

Tamale,
15th April, 1921.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	1919
1070	British Honduras	"
1071	Hong Kong	"
1072	Barbados	1919–1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918–1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919–1920
1075	Nyasaland	1919
1076	Falkland Islands	"
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	"
1079	Uganda	1919–1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	"
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland	1920–1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920–1921
1086	Ceylon	1920
1087	Barbados	1920–1921
1088	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1919–1920
1089	East Africa Protectorate	"
1090	Sierra Leone	1920
1091	Zanzibar	"
1092	Cayman Islands	1918–1919
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	"
1095	Bahamas	1920–1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	1918–1919
1098	Nigeria	1920
1099	New Hebrides	"
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920–1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"

MISCELLANEOUS:

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the island, by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1126.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST.

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REPORT FOR 1921.

(For Report for 1920 see No. 1105.)

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE
at the following addresses: Imperial House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, and
28 Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1; 37 Peter Street, Manchester;
1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; and 23 Forth Street,
Edinburgh.

1922.

Printed in the Gold Coast.

Price 9*d*. Net.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR 1921.

GOLD COAST:
GOVERNMENT PRESS, ACCRA

1922.

Price 2s.

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CONTENTS.

	Page.
I. Financial	3
II. Trade, Agriculture and Industries	4
III. Legislation	7
IV. Education	7
V. Government Institutions	8
VI. Judicial Statistics	9
VII. Vital Statistics	10
VIII. Posts and Telegraphs	11
IX. Religion	12
X. General Observations	13

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR 1921.

I.—FINANCIAL.

1. In the absence of any direct taxation the Revenue of the Protectorate remains negligible, the sole Revenue producing sources being rents, Gun licences, Court Fees and Fines, and in view of the paucity of Civil Cases, and the small number of Criminal Cases this is only what is to be expected.

2. In spite of the joy with which the alloy coinage was accepted last year, the natives have a very good idea of the intrinsic value of silver and other metals, and at the present time the purchasing power of the alloy coinage is far less than that of the British silver, 1,000 cowries used to be given for one shilling silver, now this has some-what dropped and varies according to local conditions and demand, but, for a shilling alloy it is doubtful if more than 500 cowries could be bought. It is, moreover, useless for melting into ornaments.

3. The Protectorate Revenue still suffers from the fact that all Customs duty collected on articles supplied from overseas, is credited to the Colony, and here again the meagre revenue is further lessened, the same applies to Railway freights.

4. Man power continues to be one of the important assets of the country and during the year, 3,800 organised labourers have been supplied to the Mines, Railways, Sisal Plantations and the Surveys, besides unknown numbers of men who go down to the Colony and Ashanti to seek work, more especially cocoa-carrying during the season, and clearing farms for the Ashantis. This last class of labour is very popular, which is natural, as most of the labour is drawn from the farming class. This work is well paid. Mine labour is not popular, the main reason being that nearly all the people are unwilling to work under-ground, and prefer above-ground work at less pay. Cocoa work is also much sought after owing to the large wages which can be earned in a comparatively short time, and a man can earn enough in a fortnight to keep him in affluence for the remainder of the month.

5. The Police and Gold Coast Regiment also draw their recruits from the Northern Territories.

6. There are no tables of Revenue and Expenditure shown, the financial year being now changed as from December 31st to March 31st, and as the Annual Report covers only the period from January 1st to December 31st, the tables would be incomplete and are therefore omitted.

7. The paper money has disappeared, and its departure has left no regrets among the native population, who for the most part had nowhere to keep it, did not understand it, and could not bury it with any certainty of eventually retrieving it, owing to white ants and other destructive pests.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

Trade.

8. The trade, in spite of the general depression all over the world, has not been so bad as might have been expected. In the case of cattle the drop as compared with 1920 is only 5,645 head, and this in spite of the fact that rinderpest has been raging in French and British spheres, and was also bad last year. For months cattle were prevented from travelling and even at the time of writing, though the French are now reported to have stamped out the disease, it has been considered necessary by the Veterinary Department to institute Quarantine Stations on the Frontiers through which French cattle must pass, and where they are detained for some days under observation. From recent reports it is thought that this trade will now increase largely, when all restrictions are removed, and at the present time there are Europeans engaged in it in increasing numbers.

As regards sheep and goats the totals passing south show an increase of 16,072 as compared with 1920—which is encouraging.

Shea butter going south is fairly normal showing a decrease in donkey loads of this commodity, but a corresponding increase in carrier loads.

The same may be said to apply to the kola which shows a decrease in donkey loads of 19,342, with an increase in head loads of 23,575. The donkey load averages 140 lbs as against the head load of 96 lbs.

Cloth shows a decrease of 8,990 loads and this is probably accounted for by the inflated price of English cloth and the trade depression in the United Kingdom.

Dried fish, a purely Native produce, shows an increase of 2,498 loads in the year under review.

9. The Acting Commissioner of the Northern Province quotes figures of cattle passing through Navarro in past years and is somewhat pessimistic regarding the restrictions on moving cattle, he says:—

> "8. This, of course, is due to the restrictions placed on the import of animals owing to the cattle plague, and the fact that only one port of entry at Bawku was allowed until November 21st, when another was opened at Hamele. It is feared that the majority of this trade may be permanently lost as traders turned back from Paga in the Navarro District would have to retrace their steps to

Kupela before going down to Bawku, as the French Nankanni have no proper roads and an evil reputation for looting traders. It is unlikely that traders which have suffered this hardship would be likely to make a second attempt, but prefer to use the market at Bamako, where the meat is chilled for French export trade."

"9. The prices in the south for meat appear to be very high, as traders have passed either north or south who are of other nationality than French or African; a Greek and a Syrian reported at Bawku and Syrians from Coomassie did so at Navarro going north to buy cattle."

"10. It is interesting to note that more sheep of the wooled breed from Macina have been brought down than before, but they do not appear to stand the journey as well as the other breeds."

10. With reference to the statement of the Acting Provincial Commissioner of the Northern Province, orders were given some time ago to open more Quarantine Stations on the Northern Frontier to obviate the long journeys necessary to reach existing Quarantine Stations, and it is a well known fact that the Gold Coast markets are the best markets for this trade. In a conversation with a French cattle trader he admitted this fact, and said that even if we imposed an import duty on cattle it would still pay French cattle traders better to go to Gold Coast markets than to use the market at Bamako, where prices do not run so high.

11. These Quarantine Stations are an absolute necessity, as without them, French infected cattle could come in anywhere and infect the Northern Territories cattle all the way down the road, in fact they did so until restrictions were imposed.

Agriculture.

12. The report on the harvest on the whole is good, except in certain localities and with certain cereals. The rains being very heavy during the wet season a great many of the yams, which were planted in low-lying ground, rotted.

The early millet in Bawku Bari Zouaragu, and Kologu was destroyed by a plague of caterpillars in May, and the later crop was not a success.

The Guinea Corn crop was good, as was the Rice in the Southern Province.

Tobacco is reported as good and is being grown in increasing quantities.

The culture of fruit trees is being taken up seriously by Political Officers, and more especially are they to be raised round Rest Houses in the bush.

13. Attention is being given to experiments in Shea butter. A few areas were cleared before the burning in order to see how the unburnt trees produce as compared to the burnt trees. It is a practice of the natives when about to collect Shea butter in a certain area, to burn this in December or earlier if possible, to get an early crop, also to ensure that the trees are only scorched and not burnt, as they would be if the fire got at them in January or February when the grass is as dry as tinder, and the fires much fiercer.

14. It is the intention of the Government to have ground nuts planted round these experimental Shea-nut areas, this will have the effect of keeping down the bush and weeds, and will be tried next season.

Tamale Agricultural Station.

15. A change has been made here, and now this Station is purely to be used for Arboriculture, and teak, mahogany, etc., are to be planted, next season indigenous trees will be put in for the supply of fire-wood in later years. This is becoming scarce as is always the case in large communities, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain.

At Yendi a good bit of thinning has taken place in the teak mahogany plantations, and the waste wood will prove very useful for building work both at Yendi and Tamale.

16. A great deal of tree planting has been done by Political Officers in the year under review—both in the Native Towns and the Stations, and in some cases along the main roads.

Industries.

17. Local Industries have been encouraged and samples of various kinds of grass baskets, from both Provinces, have been sent down to the Coast for sale. They are of various kinds, waste paper, strong, round coloured ones with lids, and baskets suitable for carrying earth.

18. The Public Works Department have given a large order for the type of mat made at Daboya in the Southern Province, and for river oyster shells for making lime. This makes an excellent white-wash, and mixed with sand, a fairly good mortar for building purposes.

19. British hand looms were imported and an attempt was made to instruct the native weavers, but this met with no success, however, the Headmaster of the Yendi Trade School and one of the African Masters have now learnt the art and it is hoped that the boys will take to it.

20. Dying, pot making, and leather work are practised locally, and a considerable industry is the drying of fish, which is done by Coast Natives who come up the Volta from Adda during the fishing season, from December to August. These men have encampments on the sandbanks in the low river and pay a subsidy to riparian Chiefs for fishing rights.

21. Efforts are being made to interest the inhabitants in the Shea butter industry—which is now only carried on in a small way owing to the transportation difficulties.

22. String making is still carried on in Northern Mamprusi, but with the falling of the price of imported string, there is not such a demand for it on the Coast as there was last year.

23. The Péres Blancs at Navarro have been teaching their pupils how to make an excellent type of rope mat.

Very good clay pipes are also made in the North, but except as curios, and locally, there is no demand for these.

24. Cattle and Sheep breeding is being carried on under the Veterinary Department, with what success cannot be said until the calves and lambs are born. The English stock all died after a few months, but this industry is being persisted in and it is hoped we shall have better luck with the next lot of bulls and rams.

25. There is a large and somewhat new industry which is growing apace, that of taking fowls and guinea fowls to Coomassie and the Coast. Hundreds of fowls may be seen picketed out at the various Caravan halting places. This trade is most remunerative, if prices asked in the north are any indication.

26. Efforts are being made at Lorha in the Northern Province, to break oxen to the plough. The Political Officer has had some success with one team up to date.

27. The Government stock farm which was formerly under the Agricultural Department was handed over to the Veterinary Department during the year.

III.—LEGISLATION.

28. There were eleven Ordinances applying to the Northern Territories enacted by the Governor—and Town Rules were amended by the Chief Commissioner.

IV.—EDUCATION.

29. A new departure has been inaugurated under this Head. It was found that the Education in Government Schools merely fitted boys to be Government clerks, schoolmasters, mercantile clerks and time-keepers and it was felt that there would not be enough vacancies to go round, at the same time there was a large field for skilled craftsmen in the Protectorate.

30. A Trade School is now under construction which will accomodate 30 boys the first year, 60 the second, 90 the 3rd, and 120 the fourth year, after

which the fourth year boys are finished, and it is hoped that a long-felt want in the way of skilled labour will be gradually removed as each year makes an extra class available.

An European Headmaster has been appointed with an African master who can teach wood work as well as book work, and a man for teaching masonry has also been appointed. Next year will be added an instructor in iron work.

The boys have been selected with some care from the various Districts, so that all are represented. They are dressed in uniforms of Native cloth and trained as Boy Scouts. They are boarded and have excellent dormitories, and each boy has a plot of ground which is used as a training ground for Agriculture under an Official of that Departmen.

The School will be opened on February 6th, 1922, and will gradually be extended, and built by the pupils themselves until buildings are available for the total strength. Empty plots have been left for this purpose.

31. The other Government Schools are at Tamale, Wa, Lorha, Gambaga, and Standards I. to VII. form the curriculum. A new school house is nearly ready in Tamale for occupation. The pupils at Tamale School numbered 92 with an average attendance of 68.8 as compared with 60.4 last year.

32. The Peres Blancs at Navarro have re-opened their school which had to be shut down during the war, and have an attendance of 25. The pupils are taught carpentry and masonry, and the native industries of rope making and mat making are also taught.

33. Mohammedan schools are in existence in all the large Mohammedan centres, where Hausa and Arabic readings are taught, and the Koran.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

34. Besides the schools already mentioned these consist of Native Hospitals, Post Offices and Dispensaries, in most of the Stations where there are Europeans. Medical Officers are few, but they do a certain amount of travelling.

The Wa Native Hospital is under the supervision of a Medical Officer, as is the Gambaga one.

Yendi has not yet got a hospital, but there are Native Hospitals and Dispensaries at Salaga and Tamale, where Medical Officers are stationed. It is proposed to build a hospital and dispensary at Yendi next year—as there is now a Medical Officer there.

35. There is a Central Prison at Headquarters, and at each Station a small prison is maintained for short sentence prisoners only.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

36. The most prevalent crime was offences against property and of this class of crime the larger part is stock theft in the Northern Province, in the Southern stealing from a house is fairly prevalent.

37. In the North, the success or otherwise of the harvest is a very good indication of the amount of crime which will follow, as the people very often steal stock after a bad harvest for the reason that they are hungry.

38. Civil cases are not at all numerous and many are merely for recovering small debts, women or children.

In the North, before the sowing season, there are frequently disputes as to farm boundaries and as to the ownership of Shea butter and Dorua trees, which often lead to fighting.

Chiefs are encouraged to deal with minor cases, more especially matrimonial squabbles.

39. Comparative table of crimes for the last Four Years :—

	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
The number of Offences reported to the Police	579	587	616	498
The number of Persons apprehended by the Police or summoned before the Magistrates	579	587	616	498
The number of Summary Convictions:—	—	—	—	—
1. For Offences against the Person	102	101	112	84
2. For Slave Dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For Offences against Property other than Praedial Larceny	152	161	155	145
4. For Offences against Health, etc. Acts	19	21	151	25
5. For Regulation of Employment Acts including Acts relating to indentured coolies ..	—	2	23	26
6. For Other Offences	82	119	87	128
The number of Convictions in the Superior Courts :—				
1. For Offences against the Person	13	9	2	6
2. For Slave Dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For Offences against Property other than Praedial Larceny	14	6	2	5
4. For Other Offences	6	1	8	3
The number of Persons acquitted :—				
1. In the Inferior Courts ..	111	148	73	70
2. In the Superior Courts ..	14	24	3	6

40. Including the number of convictions in the Superior Courts three death sentences were passed by the Circuit Judge, two confirmed and carried out, and one commuted to penal servitude for life.

One murderer was found by the Circuit Judge to be of unsound mind, and was, under order of the Chief Commissioner, removed to the Lunatic Asylum, Accra.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

European Officials.

41. Total number about	63
Deaths	2
Invalidings	4

African Officials.

Total number not given.	
Invalidings	nil.
Deaths	1

Non-Native Non-Officials.

Total number	3
Deaths	1

Native Population.

42. See Census paragraph.

The population consists of the following Tribes—Brong, Nechumru, Gonja, Dagomba, Mamprusi, Kusasi, Chakosi, Nabdam. Nankanni, Talansi, Builsa, Kassina, Lobi, Issala. Dagarti, Grunshi, Willo, Wala. (In Mandated Territory Bimoba, Konkomba, Dagomba, Chamba).

43. The health of the Natives may be generally described as fair, there being a good deal of pneumonia in the Harmattan, and ulcers, elephantiasis, guinea-worm are always to be seen when in the bush villages. Ulcers seem more especially to attack children.

There are certain number of lepers in the Protectorate, but the disease does not appear to be on the increase and the people do not seem to have the slightest fear of it.

Water Supply.

44. This is obtained from Wells for the most part except in one favoured station where there is a spring. The supply is fairly adequate, but can always be increased when necessary by adding more Wells. Water being easily found, generally at a depth of 30 feet.

It is always necessary to boil and filter the water. The water supply in the country is very bad in the dry season, but the Government are taking steps to gradually dig Wells in the Native villages, which will be a boon when completed.

Up to the present a few Wells only have been dug in outlying villages.

Meteorological Observations.

45. The following table shows the monthly rainfall as recorded at Tamale for the last ten years :—

1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
32.36	48.01	33.32	42.65	46.57	55.76	44.45	37.84	36.95	61.77

An average of 43.96.

VIII.—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

46. The Mail Service to and from the South has been very regular during the year. There are special Mail lorries which deliver the Mails twice a week.

The journey is done in two days, except during July, August, and September when the floods make it impossible. North of Tamale, Mails go by carrier supplied by the Chiefs on contract. These Mails arrive and depart once a week.

The telegraph service is not so satisfactory, telegrams often arriving some days after despatch from Coomassie. There were over 100 interruptions to the telegraph line this year.

The abnormal flood in the Volta made the overhead wire useless and the operator had to cross the river daily to get connection, from August 29th to October 29th.

In Wa, Bole, and Gambaga, though the line goes to these stations, no telegraph Clerks are supplied. The Clerk of the Political Service has to do his best to receive and despatch telegrams and has to learn Morse to do so.

The change of Provinces has caused a little extra work for Mail delivery in the Northern Province, but this has been got over and the Mails are run on satisfactory lines, by a system of runners meeting at prescribed places and exchanging mail bags.

47. The Revenue collected at the Tamale Post Office was £443 17s. 11d. a decrease of £13 6s. 4½d. as compared with 1920.

Postal Orders issued with poundage to the value of ..	£957	9	0
Money Orders „ „ commission „ „ ..	£373	7	9

TELEGRAMS.

Inland Messages forwarded.

Paid	Official.
1,276	4,422

Inland Messages Received.

Paid	Official.
1,049	4,274

Inland Messages Transmitted.

Paid	Official.
127	250

CABLEGRAMS.

Forwarded. Paid.	*Received.* Paid.	*Transmitted.* Paid.
23	21	2, Total 11,444.

MAIL BAGS DEALT WITH AT TAMALE POST OFFICE.

1,279 bags of Mails.
207 packets.

IX.—RELIGION.

48. At Navarro, the French Canadian Péres Blancs, of whom there were three, lost one of their number, the Reverend Father Doyon.

The numbers of various Religions as taken in the Census were including Mandated Area :—

Christians.	Mohammedans.	Pagans.
804	28,416	574,234.

Most of the Mohammedans live in the Southern Province with the exception of such places as Wa, Gambaga, Wale Wale, and Bawku in the Northern.

Larabanga, Bole, Salaga are the chief centres of Mohammedanism in the Southern Province, and to a lesser extent Daboya.

The great majority are Pagans, and in this connection many registered Mohammedans in the South are only so in name, and are by no means strict followers of their adopted religion.

49. The Pagans all have their fetish, which is generally a Stone, a Tree, or Lightning, and it is a common sight to see a tree dressed in cloth to propitiate the evil spirit living up in the branches; also when cutting timber for building it is often necessary to take a local Native, or Fetish trees will be cut down to the great tribulation of the people.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

50. The Northern Territories Constabulary have been increased in both European and African Staff, formerly the European Officers numbered two, whereas at the present time there are four and two vacancies. This increase has made it possible to have Officers out on inspection duty in the outstations, and has tended to increase the efficiency of the Force.

The strength is now six Officers, two of whom had their appointments deferred to 1922, and 418 other ranks—total 424.

The discipline has been good. Every Officer and man has been trained according to 1914 Infantry Training, during the year.

Improvements have been made in the Northern Territories Constabulary buildings and new lines are being built for the men.

Three hundred and forty-five men were exercised in musketry, the figure of merit being 114.8 and the percentage of hits in fields practices 259.

Prisons.

51. The Central Prison at Tamale is the only one of any importance, all other prisons sending any men who are sentenced to anything over six months, to Headquarters.

There were 272 prisoners admitted in Tamale Gaol during the year of whom one was a Christian, 55 were Mohammedans, and 216 were Pagans.

The Prison Staff consists of the Commandant, Northern Territories Constabulary, one African Keeper of Prisons, one Chief Warder, two Third Class Warders, and 23 Temporary Warders, on an average.

The cost for the year was £1,424 14s. 8d.
One male prisoner escaped during the year.
Six deaths occurred, and two executions.
Fifty-two were admitted to hospital during the year.
Daily average number in prison was 90.2.
The prisoners are mostly employed in Sanitary work and water carrying,

clearing bush, etc. and those who are not allowed outside made rope from Sisal hemp, a: d some shoe-making and repairing is done, tailoring and washing.

Rations are now brought in by the Chiefs who sell the produce to the Officer in Charge of Prisons at the rate of 2¼d per diem per man.

The prison farm is also kept up as a food supply.

52. The Chief Commissioner presiding in Court has full powers and jurisdiction in the Protectorate as a Judge of the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony, except in so far as capital offences are concerned, those latter are now tried by a Circuit Judge.

Relations with the French have been cordial during the year under review, and visits have been exchanged.

The Chiefs in the Protectorate have helped the Government by every means in their power in the way of supplying necessary labour for road making.

Governor's Visit.

53. This year formed a milestone in transportation. His Excellency the Governor motored from Coomassie to Tamale and from Tamale to the North visiting Gambaga, Zouaragu, Navarro, and Sandema, and also Bawku, this latter place was reached on horseback, owing to the White and Red Voltas not being drifted, otherwise the roads could have been easily made motorable.

French Officers motored down from across the boundary and lunched with His Excellency, having come all the way from Wagadugu.

54. The whole Protectorate has been well travelled by Political Officers during the year, and the Chief Commissioner went on along trek in the spring, visiting the Wa, Lorha, Tumu Districts and parts of Northern and Southern Mamprusi.

The District Officers are continually on the move in their respective areas, and come in at the end of the month for some days to pay, square up Treasury Accounts, and generally attend to routine work.

Travelling in the wet season had to be practically abandoned, owing to the flooded state of the country and the difficulty in getting about.

55. The Deputy Chief Commissioner accompanied His Excellency the Governor to most of the Districts, which were missed later by the Chief Commissioner, so that it may be said that the whole Protectorate was visited by one or the other.

ADMINISTRATION.

56. The Chief Commissioner administered the Protectorate from January 1st to October 22nd, when it was taken over by Major H. Walker Leigh, Deputy Chief Commissioner, until the end of the year.

57. This year has been one of great changes in the Administrative control. In the early part of the year the Protectorate was reduced from three Provinces, the North-West, North-East, and Southern, to two, namely, the Eastern and Western.

When His Excellency the Governor came to discuss these alterations with Political Officers, it became evident that the obvious division, if into two Provinces, should be Northern and Southern Provinces, as by this division the Gonja Tribe was kept intact instead of being cut in two, and the Provincial Commissioner of the Southern, had a Province containing the whole of the Gonja as well as the Dagomba Tribes, while the Commissioner of the Northern Province had, in half his area, tribes under one Paramount Chief, the Na of Mamprusi, and in his Western area, though not under any one Paramount Chief, the people have the same habits and characteristics as in the Eastern part.

58. The first change came into force on the 20th of January and the second on the 27th of June.

59. Minor changes were also made in the nomenclature of Districts and their boundaries.

The Divisions now consist of—

Northern Province—under a Provincial Commissioner.

Northern Mamprusi.
Southern Mamprusi.

Lorha Tumu.
Wa.

Mandated Area added to North and South Mamprusi.

Southern Province—under a Provincial Commissioner stationed at Tamale.

Eastern Dagomba, Mandated Area.
Western Dagomba.
Eastern Gonja, Mandated Area added.
Western Gonja.

60. A new system of permanent stations for Political Officers also came into force.

Native Affairs.

61. There have been no riots or trouble of any sort except a little arrow shooting amongst the Konkombas in the Mandated Area. This was more or less a drunken brawl after a market day, and 8 men escaped over to French country; on a murder charge—an attempt to extradite them has not been successful.

62. On the Western Frontier trouble was reported early in the year between the French Lobis and the French—and incidentally some British Lobis were murdered. Patrols of the Northern Territories Constabulary were kept for some time at hand, but were withdrawn later, and from latest reports matters seem to have returned to the normal, though an occasional murder, caused by a blood feud of long standing, may be committed.

63. The Paramount Chief of Savelugu died and it became necessary for successor to be elected. After many months funeral custom, the Chiefs repaired to Yendi accompanied by the Deputy Chief Commissioner for the purpose of electing the new Chief, and Abdulai, Chief of Bamvim of the Royal House of Yendi, was elected after a somewhat prolonged sitting. He has been a splendid man for the Government ever since we came to Tamale, and his election was very popular except with some of the other candidates who, later on, came and swore allegiance to the new Chief.

The Gold Coast Regiment.

64. 'A' Company left for manoeuvres early in the year and 'C' Company took their place, on the completion of the training.

Roads.

65. Owing to the abnormal rains during the wet season much damage was done to roads in all parts of the Protectorate, and this damage was made good as far as it could be in the time. The work is still going on and great improvements are being made in the Tamale-Yeji road, permanent bridges are gradually replacing temporary ones, and stone revetted embankments are being constructed. Some new roads have been begun and early in 1922 it should be possible to motor from Coomassie to Wa and south of it via Salaga, Tamale, Nasia, Navarro, Nakon, Tumu Han, but this would only be possible in the dry weather.

Rest Houses.

66. There are Rest Houses all over the Protectorate, and tents are rarely required. These Rest Houses are kept by the Chiefs under the orders of the District Commissioners, who pay a small annual sum for their up-keep. It is a noticeable fact that the further from civilization the better the Rest Houses.

Ferries.

67. There are two Ferries under control of the Government the Yeji Ferry and the Buipe or Morno Ferry. The latter was only started in March, when the river was fordable up to the end of May, during which time no tolls were collected. From that time to the end of the year the tolls amounted to £674 18s. 3d.

The tolls collected at the Yeji Ferry amounted to £1,383 2s. 6d., a decrease of £40 13s. 0d. as compared with 1920.

It is gratifying to hear that since the new Ferry at Morno has been started, no complaints have come in as to extortion there, which was very much the case when it was under the Chief of Buipe.

The Yeji Ferry has also a raft for the crossing of motor cars, which is very quickly and efficiently done.

Transport.

68. Mechanical transport works between Coomassie and Tamale and was only stopped for 2½ months during the year in spite of the heavy rainfall. At that time it became necessary to fall back on carrier transport. This naturally tended to congestion of loads at the place of origin, Coomassie, and a certain amount of inconvenience was experienced, and a lot of material for building was delayed.

Public Works.

69. A separate report by the Executive Engineer has already been sent in, and in this connection it is only necessary to report that the Political and Public Works Department are now working most successfully together, and the results are good and the expenditure less comparatively.

Buildings were going up at a good rate during the latter part of the year, but were delayed by want of material.

Immigration and Emigration.

70. There is very little immigration, though a few natives from the French Mandated Area have settled in the British sphere, and a few Hausas come and settle in the various Zongos. The usual migration of French Natives seeking work in the South continues, but most of these boys return to their country after short periods.

Labour.

71. See under Financial.

The ordinary labour at 6d. a day is difficult to obtain now, but Chiefs have been very good in helping with labour on contract, and on roads and bridges.

Census.

72. The Census was taken this year under considerable difficulties and including Mandated Areas, amounted to 603,454, being 320,163 males—283,291 females—as against 361 thousand odd in 1911.

Without Mandated Territory it amounted to 527,914. The increase is due to natural causes in spite of epidemics and the fact that the country has become much quieter during the last decade, so that it was possible for Political Officers to penetrate Areas which could only be guessed in 1911.

Veterinary.

73. There are Stock farms at Yendi, Tamale, Wa, and Lorha, and during the year Veterinary Officers were stationed at Tamale, Wa, and Zouaragu, but up to date it is too early to say what the results of importing British breeding stock will be. The Veterinary Officers have done a lot travelling and inoculation of contact and infected cattle, more especially in the North, where rinderpest was more rife than in the South.

74. A Census of cattle, sheep, goats, horses was taken and gives the following results :—69,529 cattle—242,371 sheep and goats—8,509 donkeys 2,553 horses.

This is the first time a complete census of animals has been done in the Protectorate and should be valuable in after years for comparison.

Fowls have been imported from England with the idea of getting a larger breed of bird through the country.

Turkeys are more often seen than formerly, these are, or have been, brought up the river from near Kitta.

Suitability of Climate for Europeans and Openings for White Labour.

75. Taking into consideration the numbers shown on the sick list it cannot be said that the climate is suitable to Europeans, more especially in the early twenties. These younger ones seem to be always sick, and speaking as a layman and with all due deference, it appears that men of over 35 years of age stand the climate far better than their juniors.

The heat in February and March is trying, but in January and December the nights and early mornings are very cool.

There are no suitable openings at the present time for White labour.

Surveys.

76. No surveys have been made this year, owing to the fact that the instruments applied for did not arrive in time for any useful work to be done before the grass got too high.

H. W. LEIGH,

Acting Chief Commissioner,
Northern Territories.

Tamale,

16th February, 1922.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1093	Cyprus	1920
1094	St. Vincent	,,
1095	Bahamas	1920–1921
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	,,
1098	Nigeria	,,
1099	New Hebrides	,,
1100	Somaliland	,,
1101	Straits Settlements	,,
1102	Swaziland	1920–1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
1106	Seychelles	,,
1107	Ashanti	,,
1108	Hongkong	,,
1109	British Guiana	,,
1110	British Honduras	,,
1111	Malta	1920–1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920–1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921
1117	Cyprus	,,
1118	Weihaiwei	,,
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	,,
1121	Gambia	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	1920–1921
1123	British Guiana	1921
1124	Grenada	,,
1125	Zanzibar	,,
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
1127	Gibraltar	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

(7524) Wt. 14591/749 375 9/22 Harrow G.75/2

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1194.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1922-1923.

(For Report for 1921, see No. 1126.)

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased through any Bookseller or directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE
at the following addresses: Imperial House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, and
28 Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1; York Street, Manchester;
1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; or 120 George Street,
Edinburgh.

March 1924.

Printed in the Gold Coast.

Price 1s. 3d. net.

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CONTENTS.

FIRST QUARTER OF 1922. PAGE

I. FINANCIAL 3
II. TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES 4
III. LEGISLATION 5
IV. EDUCATION 5
V. GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS 6
VI. JUDICIAL 6
VII. VITAL STATISTICS 7
VIII. POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS 7
IX. RELIGION 7
X. CONSTABULARY 8
XI. PRISONS 8
XII. ADMINISTRATION 8
XIII. NATIVE AFFAIRS 9
XIV. COMMUNICATIONS 10
XV. GENERAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE 12
XVI. PUBLIC WORKS 12
XVII. GENERAL 12

YEAR 1922–1923.

I. FINANCIAL 15
II. TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES 16
III. LEGISLATION 21
IV. EDUCATION 21
V. GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS 22
VI. JUDICIAL STATISTICS 22
VII. VITAL STATISTICS 23
VIII. POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS 24
IX. RELIGION 25
X. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS 25

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1922.

I.—FINANCIAL.

THERE is no direct taxation, the sole Revenue collected in the Protectorate consisting of Court Fees and Fines, Gun and Game Licences, Ferry tolls, and Municipal fees. These amounted in the quarter to £1,388.

2. The amount of Revenue collected from the inhabitants of the Protectorate at the Ports of Entry in the Colony in the shape of import duties cannot be ascertained. It is comparatively small owing to the fact that the population is entirely agricultural, growing its own food, and largely supplying all its own wants.

3. Expenditure on the other hand is heavy, amounting during the quarter to £13,800. This is made up of salaries, pay to the Northern Territories Constabulary, and to the Company of the West African Frontier Force stationed at **Tamale**, expenditure on maintenance of buildings, and general expenses.

4. This adverse balance must continue until the latent resources of the country can be developed by better means of communication.

5. The wealth of the Colony and Ashanti is, however, contributed to by the large numbers of labourers which go down annually to work. Without them it is difficult to see how the cocoa industry or the Mines could continue. The Gold Coast Regiment and the Police also depend largely on the Protectorate for recruits.

6. Currency in force is the alloy coinage. Silver is now very rarely seen. Paper money is not popular and is seldom used. Tenths of pennies are in great demand in the crowded areas to the North. It has not been found possible to supply enough, and in consequence cowries are still in use. Their value constantly alters to the great disturbance of market prices.

7. Large remittances of specie are brought up from time to time. This money is paid out and seems to disappear, as little is repaid into the Treasury. Much is hoarded, and it is believed that a great deal filters out into French Territory.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

Trade.

8. The trade of the Protectorate consists largely of cattle and goods passing through to the North or the South. Cattle, horses and sheep come from the French areas in the North, pass through the Protectorate, for the markets of Ashanti and the Colony.

This branch of trade showed a big increase. 9,762 cattle, 8,326 sheep, 139 horses passed through, as against 1,139 cattle, 4,277 sheep, 8 horses, in the corresponding quarter of 1921.

This increase is due to the lesser demand by the French, the better prices ruling in the South, and the necessity for the French natives to obtain cash to pay their taxes. An average price in **Coomassie** for a beast was £12, and for a sheep 30/-.

22,577 loads of kola
385 loads of salt
3,904 loads of cloth and blankets

passed through from South to North.

9. The kola trade seems to be diminishing year by year. Whether this is due to the fact that more is grown in **Nigeria**—to which place most of our kola goes—or whether, as some tell me, it is being replaced by cigarettes, is unknown to me.

10. The salt trade is also stagnant, due to the fact that the French natives are now largely buying imported salt, and not that collected at **Addah** and **Daboya.**

11. 2,209 loads of Dawa dawa
3,184 loads of Shea butter

were taken Southwards from the Protectorate, and 3,424 miscellaneous loads of fish upwards, and fowls, hides, ropes, etc., downwards, crossed the ferries on the Volta.

Agriculture.

12. The quarter under review consists of dry months when agriculture is mostly at a standstill. Yam planting commences in February and March, and large areas were laid out in the Southern Province.

Government Agricultural Stations were adequately maintained, and special attention was given to laying out the experimental shea butter areas near all headquarter stations.

Veterinary.

13. The Veterinary Department was active. Further cattle quarantine pens were erected at **Gumbo** and **Pissugu**; thus completing the arrangements by which all cattle entering the country are quarantined for a fixed period.

The following quarantine stations were open:—

Paga, Hamele, Gumbo, Pissugu. All animals pass through these stations, cattle being quarantined for nine days, and all others for one day only. 11,161 cattle, 4,989 sheep, 78 horses, 4,799 donkeys, passed through the quarantine pens.

One French herd with cattle plague was turned back.

Pleuro-Pneumonia broke out at **Bawku,** but the slaughter of the infected animals stopped the spread.

Rinderpest occurred at **Tolon** in the **Tamale** District. Six animals died, twenty-seven were inoculated and recovered. Also at **Tumu,** where twenty-two cattle died.

14. The local cattle in the **Lorha-Tumu** area were inspected. 1,551 head were examined and found to be in excellent quality and condition.

The two English bulls continued in good health. Three fine half-bred calves were born.

The training of oxen for draught work was continued with success.

Industries.

15. Cloth weaving is the only industry of importance. There are weavers in nearly every village. The cloths are made in narrow strips sewn together. Local dyes are used, and the colours and patterns are often very attractive.

16. Basket making and string twisting are minor local industries.

III.—LEGISLATION.

17. This will be dealt with in the Report for 1922-23.

IV.—EDUCATION.

18. There are Government Schools at **Tamale, Wa, Gambaga,** and **Lorha,** a Catholic School conducted by the White Fathers at **Navrongo,** a Junior Trade School at **Yendi** in the Mandated Area, and

various small Mohammedan Schools in the bigger centres where instruction in the Koran and in Arabic reading and writing is given. A new School Building was opened at **Tamale**, giving better accommodation. The daily attendance at the four Schools was as follows :—

Tamale	..	..	**80**
Wa ..	..	..	**65**
Gambaga	..	..	**35**
Lorha	..	..	**33**

The benefits these Schools confer on the towns where they exist are readily recognized by the Chiefs and people.

Constant applications are received for more schools, which cannot be granted owing to the shortage of competent teachers.

The Schools at **Gambaga** and **Tamale** were inspected by the Organizer of Practical Education.

19. A new and important departure was made by the establishment of the Junior Trade School at **Yendi** in the Mandated Area. This was opened in February by the Acting Chief Commissioner. Thirty scholars are attending for the first year, and this number will be increased year by year until the full number of 120 pupils is reached. The object of the School is to produce skilled workmen and artisans in the various branches of agriculture and trade.

20. A European Headmaster lives on the premises in close contact with the boys who are all boarders. He is assisted by native instructors in the various trades. The boys are trained on the lines of the boy scouts and games and exercises are being developed as much as possible.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

21. There are Post Office buildings in the larger centres, and agencies at most of Government headquarters.

Native Hospitals and dispensaries exist in the towns.

22. There is a large central prison at **Tamale** and smaller lock-ups at outstations.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

23. 108 Summary and 13 Sanitary Cases were tried, and one case committed to the Chief Commissioner's Court.

24. Petty stealing is the most prevalent crime, and the next prædial larceny.

25. Homicides during sudden gusts of passion are not uncommon, otherwise there is no serious crime.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

26. European Officials averaged about sixty; eight went on the sick list, being off duty for forty-six days.

Of African Officials two were on the sick list, being away from duty for nine days.

There were no deaths or invalidings in either case.

27. The Constabulary numbered 443, with about a hundred women. Twenty-seven were admitted to hospital, and 332 days spent off duty.

28. The Company of the Gold Coast Regiment numbered 160, with about 70 wives. Twenty-nine were admitted to hospital, and 330 days spent off duty.

One Constable died at **Wa**.

29. At **Tamale** Prison the daily average was 76. There were five deaths, two from pneumonia, and one each from dysentery, tuberculosis and enteritis.

30. The health at all schools was good. 527 other outpatients attended hospital.

31. General health amongst the natives:—There was no epidemic, and no unusual number of deaths.

32. The average solar maximum was 140°, shade maximum 100°, shade minimum 74°. ·77 of rain fell during February and March.

VIII.—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

33. A very efficient weekly post service was maintained from the South by lorry, the mails leaving **Coomassie** every Friday and reaching **Tamale** on Saturday afternoon. All further distribution is done by the Political Department, regular services of runners being kept up between **Tamale** and all Headquarters.

34. The telegraph service was very badly disorganized. The wire between **Coomassie** and **Nkoranza** was constantly reported as down.

No telegraph clerks are kept on the line between **Kintampo** and **Wa**, and untrained political clerks have to do the best they can with messages.

IX.—RELIGION.

35. Christians numbered .. .. .. 804.
Mohammedans .. .. 28,416.
and Animists and pagans .. .. 574,234.

X.—CONSTABULARY.

36. The strength was the same during the quarter and consisted of 443 officers and men—including 37 mounted constables.

Captain **Massie,** Adjutant and Second-in-Command, was in charge from January 1st to January 25th, and for the remainder of the quarter Assistant-Commandant **Downer** was in command. Discipline was well maintained. The men's lines were reconstructed, and a temporary set of quarters put up for an Assistant-Commandant.

XI.—PRISONS.

37. The prison system consists of a large central gaol at **Tamale** and small lock-ups at each headquarters where offenders sentenced to less than six months are kept. The lock-ups are inspected daily by the district officer, and at every visit of an inspecting officer.

These short sentence prisoners do general outside station work such as carrying water, cleaning latrines, weeding, bush clearing, etc. They rarely exceed three or four at any one time at any station.

38. The Central Prison held 84 prisoners on January 1st, and 63 on March 31st. The number of inmates has steadily declined, due to the general settling up of the country, and the cessation of inter-family feuds in the North.

39. In the past, fights quickly developed between neighbouring compounds and villages resulting in considerable numbers of prisoners. The frequent visits of Commissioners and the greatest sense of security now tend to minimize this.

Discipline was well maintained, and considering the advanced age of many of the prisoners, health was good.

There were two whippings for continued breaches of prison discipline.

The work done at the Central Prison is similar to that done at the outside lock-ups—those kept inside do shoemaking, rope twisting, washing, etc.

XII.—ADMINISTRATION.

40. The Dependency was administered by Major **Walker-Leigh,** the Deputy Chief Commissioner, from January 1st to March, from which date Mr. **Philbrick** was in charge.

41. The re-division of the country effected in 1921 was as follows:—

Northern Province divided into the districts of:—

North Mamprusi
South Mamprusi
Lorha-Tumu
Wa.

Southern Province divided into the districts of:—

Western Dagomba
Eastern Gonja
Western Gonja.

42. The headquarters of the Provinces being **Navrongo** for the North, and **Tamale** for the South.

43. Portions of the Togo Mandated Area have been added to both North and South Mamprusi, and the old German district of **Yendi** was formed into a district named Eastern Dagomba, and added to the Southern Province.

The arrangement by which district officers were given permanent stations in order to obtain continuity was carefully observed.

XIII.—NATIVE AFFAIRS.

44. **Northern Province.**—Relations between the Chiefs and peoples and the Government were cordial and without incident of any kind.

45. There were no riots or serious quarrels amongst the people themselves: in the **Tumu** Area the scattered compound owners seem to be unable to settle down to service under Chiefs, but they are gradually adopting the idea.

46. **Southern Province.**—Relations were equally satisfactory.

47. The status of the Chief of **Tamale** was challenged by the Head Chief of the Dagombas who lives at **Yendi.** It appeared on investigation that during the separation of the Dagombas into English and German he had been given powers in excess of those allowed him by old custom. An agreement was come to by which he was allowed to retain his powers until his death, when his successor would revert to his proper position.

48. The Na or Head Chief of the re-united Dagomba Nation has shewn himself in this and other matters a wise ruler who is fully capable of dealing with the jealousies the joining up of the tribe has given rise to.

The people themselves remained in a state of peace with no riots of any sort.

49. The Konkombas, who committed some murders near **Yendi** in 1921 and escaped to French Togo, were not extradited. A difficulty in discovering the village in which they were hiding was alleged as a reason by the French Authorities.

50. The Gonja tribe stretches across the whole Southern part of the Dependency from **Bole** in the West into the mandated area East of **Salaga**. They are directly descended from the old Mandingo Empire, and obtained their present lands by conquest in the eighteenth century. The taking over of those Gonjas who were living in Togo has given rise to many questions as to the observances to be paid to their head chief, etc., and a conference has been arranged at which all will meet for discussion and settlement of these matters.

XIV.—COMMUNICATIONS.

51. There are no railways in the Northern Territories.

The Black Volta with its tributaries, the White Volta, Pru, Dakar and Oti intersects the whole area. All these rivers are tropical, being small in the dry weather, and increasing to great size and violence during the rains.

The Black Volta is nowhere above **Krachi** suitable for navigation even by a stern-wheeler of the lightest draught owing to the numerous shallows and rapids. There is a considerable canoe trade on this river, and it is hoped to develop this for goods of a heavy and imperishable nature. The other rivers have no traffic on them at all.

52. **Roads.**—No. 1.—**Prang to Tamale and Gambaga.** This is the main artery traffic between the Northern Territories and the South. It is in the hands of the Public Works Department for upkeep and maintenance. With the exception of two areas, one at **Makongo,** and one at **Yamalaga**—which are low lying and get flooded during the rains—this is an all weather road as far as **Tamale,** and permanent work is being continued as quickly as possible to **Wale-Wale** and **Gambaga.**

The Volta is crossed at **Yeji** by a pontoon which takes up to three motor cars at a journey.

At **Makongo** work was done during the quarter in re-surfacing the road, repairing the banks and strengthening the bridges which are still temporary,

At **Yamalaga**, a large gang of 200 men was kept at work permanently by the Dagombas who appreciate the benefits of having motors coming up to their country. These men worked under the Public Works Department for wages, and have constructed a long embankment which is above flood level, and which will be used next rainy season.

Great progress was made during the quarter in metalling this road and in constructing permanent bridges.

53. No. 3.—**Tamale to Yendi,** 63 miles, and **Demon,** 80 miles. This road was much damaged by the rains, but a large amount of work was done on it by the Political Department, and during the whole quarter motor cars got to **Yendi** and **Demon** without difficulty.

On all other roads only sufficient work was done to keep them open for cycle and foot traffic, the definite policy having been laid down that no more temporary works should be undertaken, that all work done should be of a permanent nature, and should commence from **Tamale** and spread outwards.

54. The mileage of roads under the Public Works Department is about 220 miles, and that of roads motorable in the dry weather under the Political Department about 800 miles, a large part of which are only waiting permanent bridging to become motorable all the year round.

Ferries.

55. There are many ferries owned by the local chiefs. During this quarter the rivers are nearly all dry, and the ferries are not in use.

The two Government ferries over the Black Volta at **Morno** and **Yeji** were efficiently conducted.

56. At **Morno** tolls were only collected for two months and amounted to £456.

57. At **Yeji** the figures for the quarter were £664, an increase of £96 over the corresponding quarter of last year. This increase does not show an increase in general trade, but is mostly to the larger numbers of cattle coming down, and to some extent to the increase of labourers going down to work in Ashanti and the Colony.

58. Motor transport is used over the main road from the South as far as **Tamale,** and also from **Tamale** to **Yendi.**

These roads were uninterrupted during the period in review, and stores and officers came up with regularity.

On other roads head transport was used.

59. The use of hammocks, except in cases of sickness, has almost entirely ceased, officers making their journies on motor or ordinary cycles.

XV.—GENERAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

60. The native population was prosperous and contented. All parts of the country were traversed by Commissioners, who found no complaints.

61. Except for the White Fathers at **Navrongo,** and two Mines' Labour Recruiters, there is no European population other than official.

62. The principal asset of the Dependency is the amount of man-power it sends down to relieve the labour shortage in the Colony and Ashanti, and also in the recruits it supplies to the Northern Territories Constabulary, the West African Frontier Force, and the Police.

63. Indented labour was supplied for railway extension and for the **Accra** Sisal Plantation ; and assistance was given to the Mines Recruiting Agents to obtain what labour they could. Work at the Mines is not popular, and difficulty was found in getting the number of labourers required.

64. A most careful watch was kept on the Railway and Mines labour which was frequently inspected.

It was found to be invariably well-treated and paid, and the returning gangs expressed themselves as satisfied.

The figures for labour during the quarter are as follows :—

Mines and Railway.

Mines	1,037 on January 1st.	1,627 on March 31st.
Railway ..	935 on January 1st.	986 on March 31st.

65. Large numbers of French labourers passed through to obtain work in the South.

XVI.—PUBLIC WORKS.

66. A new Post Office, a Court and Office for the Chief Commissioner, some sets of quarters for the Constabulary clerks were completed, and all buildings were kept in proper repair.

Co-operation between the Political and Public Works Departments resulted in large gangs of labour being available for road and bridging work with very satisfactory results.

XVII.—GENERAL.

67. **Census.**—This was taken in 1921 and showed 320,163 males, 283,291 females,—a total of 603,454 (including Mandated Area).

The population of the Dependency alone is 527,914.

The climate is hot and unhealthy. Europeans cannot work to advantage in the sun, and there are no openings for white labour.

ARTHUR J. PHILBRICK,

Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories.

TAMALE, 8TH MARCH, 1923.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR 1922-1923.

I.—FINANCIAL.

1. Revenue, £6,446 1*s.* 3*d.*; Expenditure, £70,929 0*s.* 8*d.*

2. It does not appear to be necessary to lay stress on the meagre Revenue accruing to the Northern Territories, as the reasons for this have been explained in many former Annual Reports; at the same time it may be well to emphasize the fact that our Revenue is not one of cash but of man power, the calls for which are becoming more insistent as Government programmes and private industries develop.

3. Labour is recruited in the Northern Territories for work on the Railway, in the Mines, and for local transport. Men for the Gold Coast Regiment and the Northern Territories Constabulary, Escort Police and the Preventive Service are recruited from the inhabitants of the Northern Territories: and in addition, men from the Northern Territories are employed in the Colony in connection with the Cocoa industry as storeboys, etc.

4. The slight increase in Revenue is due to the fact that Dane Guns are again being licensed after a lapse of eight years.

5. With regard to the coinage the District Commissioner of Northern Mamprusi remarks:—

> "The usual remarks about the shortage of coins of the smaller denominations are as apt for the year under review as for previous years. One cannot but remark, however, that during all these years three-penny bits, pennies, half-pennies and tenths have been steadily paid out into the district, yet they are comparatively scarce in the markets. There is no doubt that the cowry is still popular as a medium of exchange. Articles purchasable by a few cowries are usually sold by women, and with them conservative habits are even more pronounced than with men.
>
> The local value of a cowry varies, obeying the law of supply and demand. Since cowries are no longer being freshly introduced into the country, their value has increased and it must

be borne in mind that to-day a shilling is worth only 500 to 600 cowries: this does not mean that a shilling has decreased in value—it means that the cowry has increased. The result of this is inevitable. The shilling will buy less and less cowries, until in time the latter will disappear."

The District Commissioner, **Lawra,** states:—

"2. A small amount of Nickel Coinage has been distributed during the year, but not nearly enough to supply the demand. On pay-days there is a general demand for change in Nickel Coinage. It is thought that this coinage, if introduced in sufficient quantities, would immediately affect the cowry exchange and, except in villages near the French Frontier, gradually take the place of the cowry. Natives near the Frontier do not like to accept English Coinage, as it is only accepted on the French side at a discount.

"During the year this discount has been considerably less owing to the large amount of British Coinage which is finding its way into neighbouring French Territories. Owing to the European rate of exchange it is much sought after by the French Europeans and educated natives."

"3. There is always a certain amount of friction over the rate of exchange, Silver having a higher rate of exchange than the "Red Money"; and this is bound to be the case as long as the cowry is tendered as money".

6. In the Southern Province the token money is well-established in circulation.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

Trade.

7. In the Northern Province trade is reported to be on the decrease with exception of live-stock. This year 43,676 cattle passed through the Quarantine Stations of the North, 30,562 passing through that of **Paga.** Of this 43,676 only 29,848 were reported as passing out of the Northern Territories; but this discrepancy may be accounted for by the fact that many animals die on the line of march, a certain quantity are sold, and others pass South by roads where no check is kept. The 29,845 mentioned were checked at the Ferries of Morno and Yeji and the Caravanserai at **Bole.**

8. The Sheep and Goats checked out of the country reached the number of 43,003, being an increase of 12,264 when compared with the the returns of 1921.

Other articles of trade are Horses, Donkeys, Shea butter, Kola, Dawa Dawa, Salt, English and Native Cloth; and these show in the Northern Province a distinct decline, but on the other hand in the Southern Province an increase: for instance the loads of Kola going out to the North in the Northern Province are shown as 13,538 as against 39,883 last year; but in the Southern Province where the loads are checked at the ferry at **Yeji**, the Kola comes to 73,484 loads as against 65,108 of last year. This evens matters up somewhat and nearly shows a change of route for the main volume of the trade, and the amount has been increased by the addition of a new Ferry at **Morno**, where formerly trade came up and was not registered.

9. 17,439 bags of Salt passed up river to **Yapei** during the year under review, the average for a year being 16,000, and the lowest recorded 13,740. This goes to show that the Salt trade, which was reported to be going down, is in quite a healthy state.

10. The increase of Motor Transport is worthy of note. In 1921, 11 Cars, 12 Lorries and 4 Trailers were registered at the Ferry; in 1922-23 17 Cars, 159 Lorries and 46 Trailers.

11. With regard to the cattle trade and the drop in Kola in the Northern Province, it is ascribed by the District Commissioner of Northern Mamprusi to the following reasons:—

> "By far the most important factor which may have a very serious effect is the rate of exchange, which has induced many Syrians to enter this trade.
>
> "9. One cannot do better than illustrate by an example of how this exchange works.
>
> "10. The Syrians are fully alive to this. Their procedure is simple. They hand in £100 or whatever they choose to the French Company at **Coomassie**. They are given a letter of credit on the same Company at **Mopti** (the Company, of course, making a good commission), where they are credited with 7,860 francs (the rate of exchange being F. 78-60). The purchase price of a bull at **Wagadugu** is 120 francs (approx.) at **Wahiguya** 100 francs, at **Dori** 75 francs, and so decreasing in value as one approaches the bend of the Niger.
>
> "11. A Syrian, therefore, starting from **Coomassie** is able to purchase 100 head of cattle for his hundred pounds. He benefits by the rate of exchange.

"12. The native, in whose hands the trade has hitherto been, does not benefit. To him a franc is still the same; and a shilling is worth but little more. Francs are hard to come by and the currency in use in the Haute Volta is chiefly British West African currency, shillings and francs being practically interchangeable".

* * *

"14. Temporarily we in the Gold Coast gain by obtaining cattle at a very cheap rate. One can purchase cows now from 30/- upwards in **Navaro.** But the Syrian is thereby ousting the small black trader, and when—as it is bound to happen—the exchanges are adjusted, the Syrian will leave the field and the small black trader will have been ruined".

* * *

"17. It is undoubtedly due to the establishment of a rigorous customs barrier at **Po** where Kola has to pay 100 francs per donkey load, and 50 francs per head load. (N.B.—This is, of course, paid in shillings i.e. 100/- per donkey load and 50/- per head load: since francs and small French silver are very rare indeed)."

12. The prices of both English and Native Cloth have declined within the year in the **Bawku** market from 30/- a cloth to 12/- or 15/-. This is the largest market in the Northern Province, and people from practically all parts of Africa are to be met there—Fantis, Ashantis, Kroos, Yorubas, Hausas, Tuaregs, Moors, Arabs, and even Swahilis.

13. The Commissioner of the **Lawra-Tumu** District states that all imported goods and foodstuffs sell at a very high price, the reason given being that there are so many middlemen who have to make their profit before the articles are finally sold to the consumer.

Agriculture.

14. The harvest in the Southern Province was better than in 1921, but not good; there was a great shortage of Guinea Corn some months before the new corn came in.

15. In the Northern Province the crops in many areas failed, and the later crops were far from being up to the average standard.

16. The opinion is held by the Commissioner that the general advance of the desiccation noticed further up North in the Sudan has reached these parts, and it is only a question of time before the dense population of the district must move further South.

17. A great deal of information has been obtained by the Assistant Superintendent of Agriculture as to the number of trees per acre on the

Shea butter areas. Around the triangle of main roads **Tamale-Yendi—Yendi-Krachi—Krachi-Salaga**—the trees work out at from 10 to 213 per acre.

18. Experimental 20 acre plots have been marked out at **Yendi, Kulupe, Jimle**, and one near **Savelugu** in the Southern Province, and others are marked out in the Western Gonja District, as well as a few in the Northern Province.

19. In the Southern Province the people are adding considerably to the extent of their farms, as, with the advent of motor transport, they find that the selling of food is becoming profitable, and there is no doubt that this will tend to keep the farmer busier than he used to be, when he only sowed enough for himself ; and it will keep him from wanting to go South to earn money, because he can now do so in the way he loves best by the tilling of his own farm.

20. Very few cattle are exported from the Protectorate, about three % would be a generous guess ; the cattle which come down are all born and bred in French Country.

21. Some District Commissioners who have had experience with cattle are horrified at the lethargy displayed by the natives regarding the welfare of their cattle, and are continually preaching the evils of allowing heifers which are too young, to breed ; of allowing young bulls to run with the herd with no attempts to prevent inbreeding ; and the dangers of not attending to the ticks, which at some seasons may be said to cover the whole beast underneath.

22. There are Agricultural Stations at **Yendi** and **Krachi** in the Southern Province, and a plantation of trees at **Tamale.**

23. In the Northern Province there are Stations at **Gambaga** and **Wa.** Large areas are being put under teak and mahogany, and in some cases firewood reserves are being planted.

24. In **Tamale** and **Yendi** much use has been made of the teak poles for building purposes.

25. Pigs are bred at **Lawra** and there is an increasing herd there of 50 animals—there are 26 young ones—the progeny of a Berkshire boar.

26. **Wa** and **Lawra** also keep small Government herds of cattle, and English fowls now thrive at nearly all stations and have been issued to the natives by the Veterinary Department.

27. The acreage of Rice is gradually increasing in the Northern Province, but little Maize was noticed. Tobacco is a favourite crop and is grown extensively along river banks in the North; it appears to be properly cultivated, but badly cured. Ground nut planting is

also reported to be on the increase. Locusts in large clouds passed over the **Kussasi** District in Junuary and February, doing a lot of damage to the Shea butter trees.

28. The Commissioner of the **Kussasi** District is much against his people being turned into labourers for hire, and writes :—

> " It is not known at the moment how it is intended to develop these or any other farm produce industries in the future : but one thing may be counted on and that is, that no system which would tend to convert these people from independent small holders into labourers on a large estate would ever be successful. The **Kussasi** is first and foremost a farmer : he is this by nature, training and necessity. He is also a landowner. Attempt to make him into a labourer for hire and he will lose interest and self-respect. Leave him undisturbed in his tiny farm over which he is lord and master and any good there is in him (and there is much) will be developed. In this he is no different from the rest of mankind. Responsibility develops character in other peoples—notably in ourselves ; it has no lesser effect on the **Kussasi** ".

Industries.

29. There are many industries in the Protectorate—Dyeing, Pot making, Leather working, Mat and Basket making, Salt evaporation at **Daboya**, the manufacture of Dawa Dawa and Shea butter for export and the local consumption. Weaving is carried on to a great extent, but the hand looms which were brought out do not seem to have taken the native fancy in the least. This is caused by the difficulty experienced by a man, accustomed to throw a shuttle about 6 inches through a wide shade, in throwing a different shaped shuttle through a warp 30 inches broad, with possibly a narrow shade. Also the putting up of the warp and the use of the mill appear to be unnecessarily complicated to a man whose ancestors for generations were satisfied with walking round four sticks with the thread, and forming the leash in a most simple way.

30. The Trade School have English looms, but not much success has attended the efforts of the Masters in teaching the art.

31. Hoes are made, but they are so expensive that the Government have imported a better article at a cheaper price, which is bought at once.

32. Gunpowder is also manufactured in small quantities, but of inferior quality, and is only used when trade powder is not obtainable.

III.—LEGISLATION.

33. Under the new Arms and Ammunition Ordinance No. 8 of 1921 all Dane Guns were registered during the year.

34. Ordinance No. 1 of 1923, which was the only important one, defined the position of the Government with regard to land held or occupied on December 31st, 1922, and defined the future procedure in acquiring land for the Government.

IV.—EDUCATION.

35. There are at present four Government Schools in the Protectorate and one Junior Trade School, besides one School run by the White Fathers at **Navrongo.**

36. The Schools at present in being are situated at **Tamale,** the Headquarters of the Northern Territories, **Gambaga, Wa** and **Lawra;** the last three are in the Northern Province.

37. The Trade School is at **Yendi** in Mandated Territory, and the Church School is at **Navrongo**—the Headquarters of the Northern Province.

38. The attendance at **Tamale** is 107, eleven of these are girls: forty boys are in the Standards I-VII, and 56 are Infants. Only three boys have passed the 7th Standard.

39. There is a certain amount of apathy displayed by the Chiefs in sending their children to School; in spite of which people in **Bole** and **Salaga** have been clamouring for a School. The latter town has now been allowed one.

40. At **Wa**, the District Commissioner has evolved a Boarding Establishment for the boys under the supervision of their teachers, and this method has proved most successful from every point of view. The attendance is 60. This School has a troop of Scouts with a self supporting fund. **Tamale** also has a troop in being.

41. **Lawra** School is smaller and has an average attendance of 38.

42. The **Gambaga** people are also casual about sending their children to School; the attendance is 30, but many of these boys come from Northern Mamprusi and Kussasi where no Government Schools exist.

43. The Trade School at **Yendi** will be taking in the second relay of 30 boys in July, and all the buildings are ready for them.

Mohammedan Schools are in existence in all the large Mohammedan centres.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

44. The Government Institutions consist of Hospitals at **Tamale, Wa,** and **Zouaragu,** where Medical Officers are stationed, as well as a Central Prison at Headquarters, with lock-ups at each outstation.

45. Prisoners sentenced to 6 months and over invariably do their sentences in **Tamale** Prison.

The Schools before-mentioned are under the Education Department.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

46. The Crime in the Northern Territories is not serious; there were 744 Criminal Cases in the Protectorate, and 390 cases which came under the Health Acts; these latter are purely small cases of people who have not kept their houses in a sanitary condition, and it is misleading to put them down under "Criminal."

47. In the Southern Province, the most prevalent Crime was Offences against Property, principally stealing.

48. In the Northern Province, the Commissioner reports that there is nothing unusual in the class of crime to call for comment.

49. The District Commissioner, Northern Mamprusi, writes :—

> "It must be remembered that the policing of the country is in reality in the hands of the Natives themselves. Only occasionally does a Government servant make an arrest in the first instance—a condition which is bound to obtain where no police force exists."

50. This is quite true, and it is rare that a man who has committed a serious crime is not brought in by the people, except in the cases of professional thieves who are very plentiful in the Northern Province. It appears to be a regular trade, and a man returns to it after his release from prison, generally making the excuse that he can make a living in no other way.

51. The Native Tribunals are reported to have been a great deterrent to Crime more especially in the **Lawra** District where they are very efficient, and where the Chiefs take a great interest in the Administration of their Divisions.

52. Civil Cases usually consist of domestic claims or divorce, damages for seduction, or debt.

53. Comparative Table of Crimes for the last four years :—

	1919	1920	1921	1922-23
The number of Offences reported to the Police	587	616	498	744
The number of Persons apprehended by the Police or summoned before the Magistrates	587	616	498	744
The number of Summary Convictions :—				
1. For Offences against the Person	101	112	84	65
2. For Slave Dealing		—	—	—
3. For offences against Property other than Praedial Larceny	161	155	145	116
4. For Offences against Health, etc., Acts	21	151	25	385
5. For Regulation of Employment Acts, including Acts relating to indentured coolies	2	23	26	4
6. For Other Offences	119	87	128	91
The number of Convictions in the Superior Courts :—				
1. For Offences against the Person	9	2	6	8
2. For Slave Dealing	—	—	—	—
3. For Offences against Property other than Praedial Larceny	6	2	5	9
4. For other Offences	1	8	3	—
The number of Persons acquitted :—				
1. In the Inferior Courts ..	148	73	70	54
2. In the Superior Courts ..	24	3	6	12

During the year seven cases were heard by the Circuit Judge in the Chief Commissioner's Court, including one held at **Yendi** in the British sphere of Togoland.

Authority under the hand of the Chief Commissioner was vested in three Commissioners to try accused persons charged with offences against the person, which are beyond their jurisdiction.

Five Death Sentences were passed, two of which were confirmed and carried out, and three commuted to penal servitude for life. Two accused persons on a charge of murder were discharged.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

54. With regard to European Officials, there were 52 cases on the Sick List during the year as against 59 last year. Thirty-two individuals were on the Sick List as against 43 last year.

The aggregate number of days on the Sick List amounted to 463, the average period per case 8.9 days. There were two invalided and one death—which was due to Bacillary Dysentery, and occurred at Wa. One European cattle trader also died when passing through the Protectorate.

African Officials.

55. There were eleven cases on the Sick List as against six the previous year. The aggregate number of days was 97; the average period 8.81 days per case. No invalidings and no deaths.

Northern Territories Constabulary.

56. Deaths—1, due to Anthrax. Admitted to Hospital 118, from strength at **Tamale** of 166 Rank and File.

Gold Coast Regiment.

57. The health of the Europeans is reported as good. Native Ranks are usually about 150 and wives 69. Number of cases admitted to Hospital 95. Number of deaths—Nil.

Prisons.

58. Total number of prisoners—686.

Number admitted to Hospital 19 (only severe cases admitted).
Deaths—7.
Executions—2.

Schools.

59. Health reported as good; out of 106 children at **Tamale** and 3 Teachers, no seroius cases of illness have occurred.

VIII.—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

60. According to the **Tamale** Post Office records the Revenue for the year showed an increase of £342 5s. 10d. on last year.

Postal Orders with poundage issued, were valued at £1,892 11s. 3d. Money Orders with commission amounted to £507 13s. 5d. Cables and Telegrams to the number of 10,880 were received and transmitted.

61. The telegraph lines suffered from forty-two interruptions during the year under review.

640 Mail-bags and 78 packets were forwarded, and 1,136 Mail-bags with 62 packets were received.

62. A regular Mail Service by Lorry is maintained, except during the heaviest rains when bags have to be carried for some miles. All the Northern Mail Service is operated by carriers.

63. There are Telegraph offices at **Bole, Wa,** and **Gambaga** where no Telegraph Clerks have been supplied for some years, the work being performed by the District Clerks who get a small remuneration for their services.

IX.—RELIGION.

64. The majority of the Natives are Pagans, with a sprinkling of Mohammedans, the latter being found in the large towns and trading centres.

65. The number of Christians was given at the last Census as 804, as against 28,416 Mohammedans and 574,234 Pagans.

66. The Mohammedans for the most part are not very strict in the observance of the rites of their Religion, though the minority are devout enough.

67. With the exception of the Catholic Mission at **Navrongo** and **Kulnaba** built by the White Fathers, there are no churches of any sort in the Protectorate, but the Provincial Commissioner's Court is used for purposes of worship at **Tamale.**

68. There are now 422 Christian Converts and about 500 others who attend the Catholic Mission Churches.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The Northern Territories Constabulary.

69. Authorized Strength 425. Actual Strength 415 on 31st of March, 1923. Five Officers, of whom one was retrenched at the end of the year.

Recruits enlisted during the year 58.
Discharges and casualties .. 54.

The men are stationed at Headquarters with ten outstations where the Political Officers are ex-officio Officers-in charge of Detachments.

All Stations were inspected by the Commandant and put through musketry by one of their officers. Arms are the S.M.L.E. Rifle with sword-bayonet, and 8 Vickers' Guns.

Six Vickers' Gun Teams have now been trained. All Ammunition is now Mark VII.

Discipline is good. They are drawn from 19 tribes. There is a Mounted Establishment of 66.

Political.

70. In January, the **Bawku** Area of Northern Mamprusi was separated and is now being run as a District under the name of **Kussasi.**

71. The **Kratchi** District (Mandated Area) was put under the Administration of the Northern Territories in September, with the exception of the Police and Prison which remained under the Colony until the 31st of March in order to save financial complications. They were relieved by the Northern Territories Constabulary.

72. The relations between the people and the Administration have, on the whole, been good. There was a fracas between two villages in the **Lobi** Area, but the prompt action taken by the Commissioner soon put a stop to it, and prevented the trouble from spreading.

Three important Chiefs died during the year.

Prisons.

73. Total number of prisoners committed—686.

Escaped 7, Recaptured 7, Deaths 7.
Average daily number 57.4.
Average number of Warders 16.5.
Executions 2.

Administration.

74. The Protectorate was administered by the Chief Commissioner from the commencement of the year until the 12th of March, 1923, when Major-**Walker-Leigh,** Deputy Chief Commissioner, carried on until the end of the year.

75. The system inaugurated last year for permanent stations for Political Officers, has on the whole worked well, but some unavoidable transfers had to be made which rather handicapped the scheme, which, as time goes on, is bound to improve in its results.

76. The Natives are now beginning to know that they will always, when possible, have their own man over them, which tends to give them confidence, as they are exceedingly shy of strangers, more especially in the North, and it takes some time to put any confidence in them.

77. The **Wa** and **Lawra** Chiefs at one time were somewhat antagonistic to each other; but the Commissioner reports that this state of affairs is not now noticeable.

78. The Paramount Chief of the Gonjas made an attempt recently to alienate some villages which were under **Wa**, but he has been pulled up, and no trouble is expected from that quarter.

Native Affairs.

79. Gonja Conference.—The outstanding feature of the year was the Conference held at **Yapei** in February at which the Deputy Chief Commissioner presided, the following being present—District Commissioner, Western Dagomba, and District Commissioner, Eastern Gonja.

Tamale Chiefs.	Bole Chiefs.	Salaga Chiefs.
Daboya	**Yabum**	**Alfai**
Kawsaw	**Bole**	**Panshiagu**
Busunu	**Gbangara**	**Kanisi**
Yapei	**Kulimasa**	**Kulupe**
Yarizori	**Buipe**	**Lepo**
Soǥga	—	**Wura**
Garananwura	—	**Tuluwe**
—	—	**Kanjasi**
—	—	**Debre**
—	—	**Sunbung**
—	—	**Kakpendi**
—	—	**Jakubu**
—	—	**Janton.**

at which the Gonja Chiefs agreed to recognize **Yabum** as their Paramount Chief and to pay him the customary tribute.

80. The Gonja Nation was united some 150 years ago by **Jaekpa** and the land at present occupied by the tribe conquered. **Jaekpa** appointed his sons to the chieftainships of **Kombi, Daboya, Kawsaw, Bole, Tuluwe** and **Busunu**. All these Divisional Chiefs then recognized **Yabum** as their Paramount Chief, but as time went on a gradual disintegration took place; **Daboya,** for instance, seceded some 50 years ago, and at the date of the Conference most of the above Chiefs claimed independence.

81. The uniting of the Gonja Nation under one paramount chief is gratifying, but too much must not be expected during the life of **Mahama,** the present Headchief of **Yabum.**

82. Various other questions affecting fishing disputes, etc., were brought up and are being enquired into.

83. The claim of the Chief of **Kule** to part of the revenue of the **Yeji** Ferry was disallowed.

Roads.

84. A great deal of work has been done during the year under review on the main roads under the Public Works Department. On Road No. 1 from **Yeji** to **Tamale** 80,000 cubic yards of earth have been put into the banks, and the great bank through the **Yamalaga** Swamp is 75% completed.

It is hoped that this part of the road will be finished before the rains.

85. Two 40 feet stone bridges are under construction and one 80 feet trestle bridge over the **Tunga** Lagoon. Another bridge of 88 feet span with four stone piers is 50% completed over the **Makongo** River near **Yeji**. Work has gone on steadily on No. 2 Road to the North, and six new stone culverts are completed and extensive banking operations are going on.

86. All the roads in the Northern Province have been kept clean and received the necessary attention, but it is not proposed to do much work on them until the main artery reaches the North, for obvious reasons.

87. As many as twelve Cars and Lorries have passed through from **Wagadugu** in Haute Volta, down and up from **Coomassie**, though the road is not yet considered as pernament.

88. A political road has been made from **Salaga** to **Kratchi**, which is motorable for the greater part of the year.

Rest Houses.

89. About 500 are kept up in the Protectorate and are of a better type in the Northern Province than in the Southern. Owing to motor transport in the Southern Province these houses are not so much used as formerly, except when Political Officers are on inspection tours.

Ferries.

90. There are only two ferries run by the Government. One is at **Yeji** and the other at **Morno**; the latter has only been in being a little over a year. The Ferry Tolls amounted to £3,045 7*s*. 6*d*. of which £1,734 10*s*. 3*d*. was earned by **Yeji** and £1,310 17*s*. 3*d*. by **Morno** Ferry.

Transport.

91. Up to **Tamale** and **Kintampo** the transport is hired from the West African Lighterage and Transport Company, and the Service has been, taken as a whole, good. There appears to be less breakdown than formerly, and Officers are not delayed at **Coomassie** owing to shortage of vehicles.

92. Yendi can also be reached most of the year by Lorry, as can **Yapei** on the White Volta.

93. In the West and North-West, and Northern parts of the Protectorate head carriage is still in vogue, and Officers use ponies.

Public Works.

94. All buildings in the North have been kept in repair, and a new Prison and Guard Room built.

95. A new Government School was erected at **Lawra**. A Boarding House compound was built for the boys of the **Wa** School.

Excellent furniture was made at **Gambaga**.

In **Tamale** all houses were painted and otherwise kept in repair, a new Bungalow was made out of the ruins of an old one, work has been started on new Quarters for the Europeans of the Company of the Gold Coast Regiment now quartered in **Tamale**, and four new quarters were completed for the Northern Territories Constabulary African Clerical Staff.

New Constabulary Lines built at **Bole**, and improvements made to the existing Bungalow.

Extensive repairs and alterations were made to the Central Prison, the walls of the cells being raised and ventilation greatly improved.

96. A new Operating Theatre and a Dressing Shed was made for the Hospital.

97. An Armoury, Store and Guard Room in one building was completed for the Gold Coast Regiment.

An extra well for the use of the European Bungalows was dug.

98. The Political Department and the Public Works are still working in conjunction—a system inaugurated last year—and one which has turned out to be a great success.

Immigration and Emigration.

99. No figures are available, but the Commissioner of the **Kussasi** District reports that there is undoubtedly a movement among the natives of French Territory towards the South, which he attributes to the desire to trade and make money.

The same applies to the **Lawra** and Northern Mamprusi Districts, but the people are said to be inclined always to settle in the most crowded

areas. The French Authorities often write for the return of emigrants, a task somewhat beyond the power of Commissioners as these people are very hard to locate.

100. A large number of French subjects go down for work, but they generally come back after an absence of a few months.

101. Owing to the want of population in the Southern Province and the crowded state of the North, an effort is being made to induce people from the **Kassena** Area to come down and settle in a fertile country where the fly is not prevalent and where there is a good supply of water which could be improved at a small cost. The scheme is being started on a very small scale with the idea of getting five compounds to come and settle, bringing their cattle and sheep. Each family will be given a small sum of money to start them, and a thousand seed yams. If they like the change it is hoped that this small beginning may lead to better things later.

The land chosen is close to the Main North road and is in a Shea butter country, where population is badly needed to give an impetus to the Shea butter industry which it is hoped to develop.

Labour.

102. Last year 3,800 organised labourers were sent down to the Mines, Railways, Sisal Plantation, and the Survey, and this year again special efforts were made by Political Officers and Mine Recruiters to induce the young men to go down and see the world and incidentally to do some work on the various Mines in the South, thereby bringing back money and goods with them.

The results were as under :—

3,079	men went to work on the	Mines
1,275	" " " " "	Railways
107	" " " " "	Surveys
175	" " " " "	Sisal Plantation.
4,636	Total Organized Labourers.	

103. There is a marked dislike on the part of the boys to work underground, which it is quite easy to understand ; but they soon get accustomed to it, and the majority speak well of their food and treatment. There is so much labour required other than Mine work, that it is becoming increasingly difficult to keep up the supply of volunteers.

The clearing of farms in Ashanti is one of the favourite types of work for people who are farmers to a man.

104. Road construction is now claiming a goodly supply of labour up here, and this is popular as the men are near their homes, and can always visit them if there is any necessity for them to do so. There is also the question of food, which is a difficult one, as the Millet and Guinea Corn—which is the staple food of the Northern boys—does not grow in the South, where the food is of a totally different nature. The death-rate among the Mine labour is rather high, and appears generally to be the result of lung trouble ; but it is now reported that the greatest care is being taken of boys as they come above ground, that bath accommodation is provided at the pit head, and the greatest efforts are made to prevent the boys getting chilled.

105. The paying off of returning labour gives Political Officers a great deal of extra work as the gangs rarely come in units, but in a straggling fashion ; but this duty is cheerfully performed by the Commissioners, who take a great interest in the condition of the returning boys and in the various things they bring with them.

106. Besides the organized labour mentioned, it may be said that large numbers of casual labour go down annually, and at one ferry this year 16,816 men of this class of labour were checked.

Veterinary.

107. Good work has been done this year by the Veterinary Department, and good results have been obtained from the crossing of a Shorthorn and Hereford Bull with the native cows. The calves show a lot of bone, and it is hoped that they will grow up into fine beasts.

108. Rinderpest has again broken out in the North and the roads have had to be closed to travelling cattle. It is probable there will be a shortage of butcher's meat down South during the coming year on this account.

109. A Veterinary School was opened at Headquarters on the 14th of September, 1922, with the object of training Students for Government Service in the country.

110. The School is under the direct charge of a Sikh—Mr. Gurbaksh Singh, the Veterinary Superintendent—who lives there.

Suitability of Climate for Europeans and Openings for White Labour.

111. It cannot be said that the climate is suited to Europeans, though some appear to thrive on it.

The Harmattan though delightful at first after the damp of the rain,—becomes very trying, and the eyes, nose and throat suffer from the continual dust, smuts and sand with which the air is charged. Insects are then absent, and do not make their appearance until the early rains when they become a pest.

112. There were 5 ladies in Headquarters during the year, and 120 Europeans came through.

There are no openings at the present time for European Labour, and there are not likely to be for many years to come.

Water Supply.

113. This is obtained from Wells, and more of these are constructed each year. The supply cannot be said to be bad, except in the bush where it is got from water holes and is very bad in the dry season.

Meteorological Observations.

114. The following table shows the monthly rainfall as recorded at **Tamale** during the year :—

	Temperature.				Rainfall.		Winds.	
1922.	Solar Maximum.	Minimum on Grass.	Shade Maximum.	Shade Minimum.	Amount in inches	Degree of Humidity.	General Direction.	Average Force.
April ..	142.50	54.60	96.13	74.00	3.00	61.80	W	3.16
May ..	140.51	53.77	92.32	72.74	5.59	67.74	W	3.45
June ..	139.73	51.90	89.80	71.40	4.41	66.43	W	3.40
July ..	138.45	59.54	87.74	73.41	2.92	69.29	WSW	40.58
August ..	137.38	69.90	87.83	70.58	3.97	71.54	WSW	3.67
September	136.40	65.03	87.16	70.56	12.72	75.76	W	3.23
October ..	138.64	62.77	89.61	70.48	2.52	69.45	W	2.80
November..	140.40	54.80	95.26	71.60	1.12	52.56	W	3.03
December ..	139.51	48.54	96.09	67.93	Nil	48.67	W	2.41
1923.								
January ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
February ..	142.67	50.75	90.00	71.50	Nil	46.35	W	3.14
March ..	148.48	52.87	99.54	74.83	1.78	52.48	W	3.80

Messengers.

115. There are young lads sent in by the Principal Chiefs to represent them at District Headquarters. They were originally started at **Lawra** in 1917 by the then Commissioner of the District, and they were found to be such a success that they became an institution all over the Protectorate. They are sent out instead of sending Constabulary, with messages to their own Chiefs, and being natives of the District they succeed in doing their work without any friction. They are paid by the Chiefs whom they save many journeys.

Boy Scouts.

116. A full Troop at **Tamale** have been supplied with uniforms from the Troop Fund as they have no money themselves; but they will eventually pay by small instalments.

All have passed the Tenderfoot Test.

117. Another Troop is in being at **Wa**, of whom 24 have already passed the Tenderfoot Test. They are self-supporting. Four Patrol Leaders have passed the Second Class Test.

Surveys.

118. No Surveys have been done except the local surveys of Government Areas required under Ordinance.

H. W. LEIGH,

Acting Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories.

TAMALE,

18TH MAY, 1923.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1158	Weihaiwei	1922
1159	Cyprus	,,
1160	Gambia	,,
1161	New Hebrides	1921 and 1922
1162	Nyasaland	1922
1163	Zanzibar	,,
1164	St. Helena	,,
1165	Sierra Leone	,,
1166	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
1167	Bermuda	,,
1168	Grenada	,,
1169	St. Lucia	,,
1170	Leeward Islands	1921–1922
1171	Fiji	1922
1172	Ceylon	,,
1173	Gibraltar	,,
1174	British Guiana	,,
1175	Barbados	1922–1923
1176	Basutoland	,,
1177	St. Vincent	,,
1178	Bechuanaland Protectorate	,,
1179	Mauritius	1922
1180	Swaziland	,,
1181	British Honduras	,,
1182	Uganda	,,
1183	Federated Malay States	,,
1184	Unfederated Malay States	,,
1185	State of Brunei	,,
1186	Straits Settlements	,,
1187	Falkland Islands	,,
1188	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	,,
1189	British Solomon Islands Protectorate	1922–1923
1190	Jamaica	1922
1191	Seychelles	,,
1192	Bahamas	1922–1923
1193	Somaliland	1922

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-Seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1229.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1923-1924.

(For Report for 1922–1923, see No. 1154.)

1144

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 28, Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
or 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
or through any Bookseller.

1924.

Printed in the Gold Coast.

Price 9d. net.

CONTENTS.

PAGE

YEAR 1923–1924.

I. FINANCIAL 5–6

II. TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES 6–9

III. LEGISLATION 9

IV. EDUCATION 9–10

V. GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS 10

VI. JUDICIAL STATISTICS 10–11

VII. VITAL STATISTICS 12

VIII. POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS 13

IX.—RELIGION 13

X. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS 14–21

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES

FOR 1923–1924.

I.—FINANCIAL.

1. Revenue, £8,852 10s. 8d; Expenditure, £87,736 4s. 5d.

2. The slight increase in Revenue is due to the Ferry tolls having reached a larger amount than last year..

3. Until some cheaper form of transport is devised the great difference between Revenue and Expenditure is bound to continue; but, as stated in last year's report the latter is made up for by the large number of labourers from the Protectorate who go South in search of employment either temporarily with the Mines, Railways and on farms, or to join the Gold Coast Regiment or Police.

4. In **Northern Mamprusi** it was possible to meet all specie requirements from the money taken from French and Syrian traders in exchange for Drafts. These brought down English coinage from the North and bought drafts on **Coomassie.**

5. The local exchange of French money has fallen from 4/– to 2/6 for a five-franc piece. The five-franc Note was only worth 1/3 at the end of the Financial Year. It is reported that the value of the five-franc piece is controlled by the date on which it was coined.

6. During the first half of the year a considerable amount of French silver was brought over by natives for exchange, but latterly this has ceased as the French authorities prohibited its exportation.

7. The alloy money is well established all over the Protectorate, but it is not popular with the natives living along the Northern frontier.

8. The nickel coinage is very popular and although a considerable amount—£1,200—was distributed throughout the Protectorate during the year the demand still exceeds the supply.

9. Cowries are still used extensively in the Northern Province. The Acting Commissioner, Northern Province, reports that until the cowrie is got rid of it will always be a fountain of wealth to the trader, and a thorn in the side of the Administration. Lack of nickel coinage and small change in the market gives the trader and the money-changer the chance of making a very good living at the expense of the local inhabitant. This is done with the greatest ease ; the trader and the money-changer are a combine, the unfortunate local inhabitant presents a 1/– to buy salt, the trader says he only takes cowries and the purchaser goes to the money changer who gives him 600 cowries for his 1/–, he returns to the trader who gives him not a 1/– worth of salt but 600 cowries' worth, saying quite glibly that 1,000 cowries go to a shilling.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

Trade.

10. There is no doubt whatever that Trade in the Protectorate is on the increase.

11. The number of cattle that entered was 45,462, an increase of nearly 2,000 over last year, in spite of the fact that the quarantine station at **Paga,** where the majority of cattle usually enter, has been closed down for over six months on account of Rinderpest ; of this 35,933 are reported as having passed out of the Protectorate.

12. Sheep and Goats totalled 58,026 as against 43,003 last year.

13. Other articles of trade are horses, Shea butter, Kola, dawa dawa, English and native cloth.

The Acting Commissioner, Northern Province, reports a slight decrease in Kola and English cloth. The former is due to the traders leaving the road and entering French Territory at odd places along the frontier so as to avoid the heavy import duty on this article, and therefore cannot be checked. A quantity of English cloth is taken up by lorry and this also has not been checked. On the other hand other articles shew an increase ; there were 1,200 more loads of Shea butter than last year ; over 5,000 loads of dawa dawa and 2,000 loads of Native cloth.

The Commissioner, Southern Province, reports increase on all these articles except dawa dawa and salt. The former dropped by 3,000 loads and the latter by nearly 9,000. Over 15,000 more Sheep and Goats passed out of the Protectorate than last year and there was an increase of 1,402 loads of English cloth brought in. Shea butter has reached the respectable figure of 16,142 loads valued at about £24,000.

The demand for English cloth is increasing yearly in the Southern Province.

14. Only 12,910 bags of salt passed up the river compared with 21,674 last year.

15. Motor traffic has increased by nearly 300 per cent. Taking the figures at **Yeji** Ferry, over 500 cars, lorries and trailers crossed over as against 222 last year.

16. During the year under review motor vehicles reached **Tumu, Lawra, Wa** and **Bole** for the first time.

Agriculture.

17. The Commissioner, Southern Province, reports a remarkably good harvest for 1923, and adds that farms are gradually increasing in size and a ready sale of the products found to the numerous private motor-lorry owners now using the main road.

18. It is satisfactory to note that there was also a good harvest in the Northern Province, which is very thickly populated, especially in the Northern Mamprussi District ; if the harvest is not good the people suffer considerably from hunger in the months of March, April and May.

19. Taking into account the amount of the population, the area under cultivation is much smaller in comparison with the Southern Province but each year the area increases. In some parts the land is worked out but in spite of this it is difficult to get the natives to move to better ground.

20. The chief crops grown in the Protectorate are Yams, Guinea corn, Millet, Maize, Rice, and Tobacco. All these are grown in the Southern Province but in the Northern Province very few yams and only a small amount of maize are to be found.

21. The Superintendent of Agriculture and Forestry has been fully occupied collecting statistics in regard to Shea butter trees; in this he has been considerably assisted by the Political Officers who have marked out numerous ten-acre plots at intervals along the roads.

22. The Agricultural Stations at **Tamale**, **Yendi, Gambaga** and **Wa,** have been well maintained.

23. A large number of teak and nim seedlings have been planted near certain rest houses about the country. Fruit trees, such as Lime and Mango, have also been planted out at Rest Houses.

24. Vegetable seeds from England have been received quarterly at all Stations, and, on the whole, the gardens have done well. The supply is naturally very short during the dry season.

25. In the **Wa** and **Lawra Tumu** districts there are small herds of Government cattle. These are under the supervision of the Political Officers in the absence of a Veterinary Officer ; the object being to show the native what can be done with local cattle when properly attended to. This is now beginning to bear fruit and with the Veterinary Officers touring the country lecturing on the care of stock in general and the prevention of disease a distinct improvement is noticeable.

26. In the **Lawra** District a herd of selected cattle has been sent in by the Chiefs with the idea of supplying good bulls throughout the district. These consist of three herds (*a*) Main herd of 19 cows with calves at foot (*b*) heifers (*c*) bulls and steers. Each herd is in a different part of the district. The cows are lent, and the heifer progeny after three years will be returned to the owners ; the bull progeny sold and monies paid to the owners.

27. There is a herd of pigs at **Lawra**; they are however, inbreeding owing to the impossibility of getting fresh stock.

28. English fowls have been distributed to all stations and are, on the whole, doing well.

Industries.

29. The industries in the Protectorate are many and various, namely Weaving, Dyeing, Pot making, Mat and Basket making, Leather working, Iron work and String making.

Weaving is to be found in nearly every village except in those districts along the Northern frontier.

30. Dye pits are to be found in a few villages scattered over the country, chiefly on the trade routes.

31. Pot making is general all over the country.

32. Mat and Basket making is also general, but different tribes make different patterns. In the vicinity of **Navrongo** quite good hats of plaited grass are made, as distinct from the conical and dome-shaped Moshi and Hausa hats.

33. Leather work is generally done by Hausas and Moshis, who have taken up their abode in the country.

34. The Iron work is fairly general all over the Protectorate but more is done in the North than in the South.

Recently, the Commissioner at **Lawra** broke a spring in his motor car, and this was successfully repaired by the local blacksmith with his primitive tools.

35. Excellent string is made in North Mamprusi out of hybiscus fibre.

III.—LEGISLATION.

36. The Constabulary Ordinance of 1917 was repealed and replaced by No. 5 of 1923.

37. A new Section (30) was added to the Northern Territories Administration Ordinance in connection with Importation of prohibited articles into the Protectorate. No. 6/1923.

38. Rules under the Wild Animals Preservation Ordinance (N.T. Ordinance 1 of 1924), were made in regard to the shooting of elephants with small tusks. This was found necessary on account of the wholesale slaughter of these animals which were apparently shot for the value of their flesh, not for the ivory.

IV.—EDUCATION.

39. There are Government Schools at **Tamale, Wa, Lawra, Gambaga** and **Salaga**, a Junior trade school at **Yendi,** and there is a school at **Navrongo** in connection with the White Fathers' Mission.

40. The number of pupils at **Tamale** is 105. At **Wa** it is 64, **Salaga** 49, **Lawra** 48 and **Gambaga** 38. The difficulty of getting pupils of the right age is gradually being overcome.

41. The schools at **Tamale** and **Gambaga** were visited by the Provincial Inspector of Schools from **Coomassie.**

42. There are excellent boarding compounds for the pupils at **Wa** and **Lawra,** and one has recently been started at **Gambaga.** This is far more satisfactory than the old method of the pupils being boarded out in compounds in the towns, as they are now under closer supervision and better fed.

43. The Junior Trade School at **Yendi** is progressing satisfactorily and the majority of the pupils show great aptitude for the work they have taken up. It is hoped to send a further batch of about 30 boys from other schools in July.

44 The Mission School at **Navrongo** is for the moment closed owing to lack of funds.

45. Mohammedan schools are to be found in all the large Mohammedan communities, such as **Tamale, Larabanga, Wa, Gambaga** and **Daboya.**

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

46. In addition to the schools mentioned above there are Hospitals for natives at **Tamale, Wa** and **Zuaragu** where Medical Officers are stationed.

47. There is a central Prison at **Tamale** to which all prisoners whose sentence is six months and over are sent ; and there are lock-ups at each outstation.

48. There is a Post Office at **Tamale**, with postal agencies at all the outstations.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

49. There is very little serious crime in the Northern Territories.

There were 234 Criminal cases and 330 cases against the Health Acts : of the Criminal Cases 73 were against the person and 140 against property.

50. There were seven cases of Homicide. The most common crime is theft of stock, and this occurs mostly in the North where the natives turn out their stock presumably in charge of small lads who allow their charges to stray.

51. There is a good deal of petty thieving, and this occurs mostly along the trade routes.

52. The Native Administration has in each district done much to prevent crime.

53. Civil cases, of which there are very few, consist chiefly in claims for children, seduction, or debt.

54. The fact that the number of cases reported to the police is in excess of those in previous years shows that the Native Administration is more inclined to assist the Government than heretofore.

55. Comparative table of Crime for the last four years :—

	1920.	1921.	1922–23.	1923–24.
The number of Offences reported to the Police	616	498	744	909
The number of Persons apprehended by the Police or summoned before the Magistrate	616	498	744	909
The number of summary convictions:—				
1. Offences against the Person ..	112	84	65	73
2. Praedial Larceny	—	—	—	17
3. Offences against Property (other than Praedial Larceny) ..	155	145	116	140
4. Offences against Health Acts, &c.	151	25	385	330
5. Offences against the Master and Servant Act, including Acts relative to Indentured Coolies	23	26	4	13
6. Other Offences	87	128	91	204
The number of Convictions in the Superior Courts :—				
1. Offences against Person ..	2	6	8	11
2. Praedial Larceny	—	—	—	—
3. Offences against Property other than Praedial Larceny ..	2	5	9	3
4. Other Offences	8	3	—	1
The number of Persons Acquitted :—				
1. In the Inferior Courts	73	70	54	110
2. In the Superior Courts ..	3	6	12	7

56. During the year nine cases were tried by the Circuit Judge in the Chief Commissioner's Court, including four held at **Yendi** in the British Sphere of Togoland.

57. Five Death sentences were passed, one of which was commuted to penal Servitude for life, two to 10 and 15 years' imprisonment respectively ; one accused was found insane and sent to the Lunatic Asylum, **Accra**, and one was acquitted by the Order of the Governor.

Four persons were accused on a charge of Carnal Knowledge—one was sentenced to imprisonment and three discharged.

58. Authority under the hand of the Governor was vested in the Chief Commissioner to act as Circuit Judge during the latter's absence on leave (from 11th August, 1923), and in this Court two death sentences were passed—one was confirmed and carried out, and one commuted to penal servitude for life.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

59. The general health of the European Officials has only been fair. The number of cases on the sick list was 67 as against 52 last year. The number of individuals on the sick list was 41 compared with 32 last year.

60. Three Officials were invalided, and there were two deaths due to blackwater fever and heart failure respectively.

African Officials.

61. There were 30 cases on the sick list as against 11 last year. The number of individuals on the sick list was 17 as against 10 last year. One Official was invalided and one died of Laryngeal Pthisis.

62. The health of the Europeans other than Officials has been good. These included nine ladies—wives of Officials— and three Roman Catholic Fathers.

Northern Territories Constabulary.

63. Sixty-six cases were admitted to hospital out of a total strength at **Tamale** of 172. One death from pneumonia occurred during the year.

Gold Coast Regiment.

64. Sixty-four cases were admitted to **Tamale** hospital out of a total strength of 300. One death is recorded.

65. The most common complaint both in the Northern Territories Constabulary and the Regiment amongst native ranks is guinea worm.

Prisons.

66. The total number of prisoners was 584. Only five were admitted to hospital. Two deaths from dysentery occurred during the year.

School.

67. There are three teachers, 92 boy pupils and 14 girl pupils. Their health has been fairly good, and there have been no Epidemics.

68. Three thousand two hundred and thirty-one visits were paid by African Non-Officials to **Tamale** hospital as outpatients : there were 27 in-patients.

69. For the second year in succession there were no cases of Cerebro Spinal Meningitis. There were two small outbreaks of small pox, one occurred at **Gambaga** and one at **Nandom** in the **Lawra** District.

VIII.—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

70. The Head Post and Telegraph Office in the Protectorate is at **Tamale.** At all the outstations there are postal agencies, where a few stamps are kept, and at places like **Navrongo, Salaga, Yeji, Wa** and **Gambaga** a small supply of postal orders is on hand.

71. There are Telegraph Offices at **Yeji, Salaga, Gambaga** on the East, and at **Bole** and **Wa** in the Western side of the Protectorate.

72. All postal matter comes by motor transport to **Tamale** and is distributed from there to the outstations by carriers.

73. At **Tamale**, the Revenue at the Post Office was £810 2s. 5½d., an increase of £32 18s. 8½d. over last year.

74. Postal Orders to the value of £2,417 14s. 4d. were issued as against £1,892 11s. 3d. last year, and the issue of Money Orders reached £749 17s. 8d. compared with £507 12s. 5d.

75. Fewer telegrams and Cables were sent during this year, the total number being 9,918 and 10,880 respectively.

76. Nine hundred and ten Mail bags and 14 packages were received, and 543 Mail bags despatched during the year.

77. The telegraph lines suffered from 31 interruptions during the year.

IX.—RELIGION.

78. The natives of the Protectorate are for the most part Pagans; a number of Mohammedans are to be found, chiefly in the large towns.

79. There are about 1,000 Christians, including those in the Roman Catholic Mission at **Navrongo.**

80. The Commissioner, Northern Province, reports that this year there has been great progress in the Mission at **Navrongo.**

81. The children who first entered the Mission School and took up Christianity have now attained an age when they can begin work, and they are returning to their homes and making great strides amongst their brethren.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The Northern Territories Constabulary.

82. The authorised strength is 419 and the actual strength on 31st March, 1924, was 419.

There are four Officers, one of whom retired on pension during the year on account of ill-health.

83. The men are stationed at Headquarters under their own Officers, and at the Outstations the District Commissioner is in charge of each Detachment.

84. These detachments are frequently inspected by Constabulary Officers and are changed practically every year.

85. The Commandant visited each detachment during the year.

86. The blue serge Uniform, which was adopted in 1908 when the Constabulary was formed, has been replaced by Khaki drill clothing, with green kamarbands and green Zouave jackets. This change was made on the grounds of economy and cleanliness.

87. There is a special branch of 30 men—included in the above quoted strength—called "Cattle Guards." This unit is composed of ex-Constabulary Non-Commissioned Officers and Constables with "exemplary" discharges, and their duty is to patrol the frontier in order to prevent Cattle entering the Protectorate by routes other than those laid down. These men did exceptionally good work this year during the Rinderpest outbreak.

88. The discipline of the Northern Territories Constabulary is good. The men are drawn from nineteen tribes, and there is a Mounted establishment of 66.

89. Horses for the Mounted branch are now provided by Government in place of the old system when men were allowed to purchase their own animals.

Political.

90. The relations between the political officers in the Protectorate and those of the adjoining French Colonies have been friendly, and a few visits have been exchanged.

91. The District Commissioner, Northern Mamprusi and the Assistant District Commissioner at **Zuarugu** met the French Resident of **Wagadugu**, and the Commandant of **Po** in connection with the beacons along the Northern frontier of the Northern Mamprusi District.

92. The natives in the Eastern portion of the **Yendi** (Eastern Dagomba) District, being somewhat truculent and inclined to defy the Commissioner, a strong force of Constabulary under the Commandant and accompanied by the District Commissioner patrolled about the disaffected area and disarmed the natives. No disturbance took place and the object of the patrol was successfully accomplished.

93. No important Chiefs died during the year.

Administration.

94. The protectorate was administered by **Major Walker-Leigh,** Deputy Chief Commissioner, from the commencement of the year till 15th October, 1923, when **Mr. A. J. Philbrick,** Chief Commissioner, relieved him. On 8th February, 1924, **Mr. Philbrick** handed over to **Mr. H. C. Branch,** Provincial Commissioner, Southern Province, who, in his turn, handed over to **Mr. L. Castellain,** Provincial Commissioner, Northern Province, on 25th March.

95 Owing to invalidings and transfers it was not found possible to administer adequately some of the districts. The two Provincial Headquarters suffered most in this respect as the Commissioner, Southern Province, had to assume the duties of District Commissioner, Western Dagomba, and the Acting Commissioner, Northern Province, that of District Commissioner, Northern Mamprusi, in addition to their own duties.

Native Affairs.

96. The Commissioner, Northern Province, reports that the Chiefs throughout his Province have shown their willingness to assist the Government in the Administration of the country, and there have been no serious disturbances during the year. This speaks well for the Native population when one takes into consideration that there are 407,325 people in an area of 12,790 square miles under only six political officers.

97. The Commissioner, Southern Province, remarks that the relations of the Chiefs with the Government and with each other are most satisfactory, and adds that **Dagomba** could be taken as a model for the amicable relations that exist between the Government and the ruling Chiefs.

99. **Bukare,** Chief of **Vogo**, was promoted to the divisional stool of **Savelugu**, and has proved himself fully fitted for his responsibilities as the Senior Chief of the District.

99. Fifty-four cases came before the tribunal, practically all of which were of a matrimonial nature. The judgments appeared to be sound and there were very few appeals therefrom to the District Commissioner's Court.

100. Owing to some vendetta murders occurring in the Eastern Dagomba District, a patrol of 60 Northern Territories Constabulary visited the villages of **Sansugu, Sanguli, Kungau** and **Kutza.** 20,000 bows and arrows were collected and burnt. No untoward incident occurred; the people generally came out in large numbers to meet the patrol and showed no hostility.

101. Several disputes as to fishing rights were enquired into and boundaries fixed to the mutual agreement of the villages concerned.

102. The Chief of **Yabum,** Paramount Chief of the **Gonjas,** has given a certain amount of trouble, which though not of a serious nature causes the District Commissioner an unnecessary amount of worry. This chief was made to live in a small village near **Bole,** so as to be under closer supervision of the District Commissioner; but he has now been allowed to return to his own village of **Yabum,** and it is hoped that he will give no more trouble.

103. The small tribe of the **Mos,** who are really Ashantis and lived in villages along the left bank of the Black Volta in the West Gonja (**Bole**) District, recently moved across into Ashanti, and have stated their intention of residing there permanently.

Roads.

104. The main motor road from **Prang** to **Tamale** (No. 1) has been kept in good repair by the Public Works Department. New embankments have been built at the **Yamalaga** and **Makongo** swamps; these suffered so considerably during the heavy rains in August and September that it has been decided in future practically to close the road during those months in each year.

105. The road from **Tamale** to **Yendi** (No. 3) has also been kept in good repair and was open to motor traffic practically the whole year round.

106. The road from **Tamale** to **Navrongo** (No. 4) was open to motor traffic up to June 30th when the drifts at **Nabogo, Nasia** and **Paragu** got too deep. It was open again in December but little has been done to it North of **Nasia.** Odd cars and lorries have, however, been able to reach **Navrongo,** a few of which have gone North into French country; one car went as far as **Lawra,** and a lorry as far South as **Bole.**

107. The road from **Salaga** to **Krachi** (No. 25) has been open to motor traffic all through the dry season.

108. All other roads in the Protectorate have been kept in repair, and each year the mileage open to motor traffic increases.

Rest Houses.

109. These have all been kept in good repair. There are about 500 scattered all over the Protectorate, those in the Northern Province being of a better type than in the Southern Province, as they are used more, and more labour is available for their upkeep. Motor traffic has not yet come into such general use as in the Southern Province.

Ferries.

110. There are at present ferries at **Krachi**, **Yeji**, and **Mornu** on the Black Volta which are under Government control.

111. The tolls at **Yeji** amounted to £2,315 2s. 3d. as against £1,734 10s. 3d. last year. This constitutes a record since Government took over the Ferry in 1911.

112. The tolls at **Mornu** Ferry amounted to £1,662 16s. 9d. as against £1,310 17s. 3d. last year.

113. The **Krachi** Ferry tolls amounted to £409 9s. 5d. compared with £395 15s. 1d. last year.

114. The Government is now taking over the ferry at **Bamboi**, also on the Black Volta, North of **Kintampo.**

115. There are no Government ferries in the North. They are entirely in the hands of the Chiefs who maintained a satisfactory Canoe service whilst the rivers were unfordable.

Transport.

116. Between **Coomassie** and **Tamale** the transport of all Government Officials and loads is done under contract with Messrs. Elder's Road Transport Department, and during the year under review the service has been on the whole satisfactory. The journey which is 238 miles is generally accomplished in two days. The first day's journey being from **Coomassie** to **Yeji** 140 miles and from **Yeji** to **Tamale** the next day.

117. A Syrian and also an African own private lorries at **Tamale**, and these are occasionally hired for journeys North and to **Yendi.**

118. On all other roads head porterage is still used.

Public Works.

119. Several new European bungalows were built during the year, or are in course of completion by the Public Works Department at **Tamale.** Great difficulty is found in getting suitable timber, and all of it has to be brought from some distance, making it very costly.

120. A new Toll House and Post Office have been completed at **Yeji.**

121. At **Yendi** the Medical Officer's bungalow was completed.

122. At **Bole** a new Court and Offices have been built. The District Commissioner's House was also enlarged.

123. A new bungalow for the Commissioner at **Krachi** is in course of construction.

124. At **Navrongo** new quarters for the Clerks were built and also new lines for the Northern Territories Constabulary.

125. New stables and boys' quarters were built at **Gambaga** and existing buildings put in repair.

126. The new prison at **Bawku** was completed in June, and a new Office for the District Commissioner has just been completed.

127. At **Lawra** and **Wa** the existing buildings were repaired.

128. Several wells have been dug at outstations, namely, two at **Wa,** two at **Krachi,** and four at **Yendi.**

129. All Public Works, except those at **Tamale** and **Salaga,** are done under the supervision of the Political Officers.

Immigration and Emigration.

130. Unfortuntely, on account of the small staff available, it is not possible to obtain anything like correct figures, but there is no doubt that quite a considerable number of natives from French Territory have moved into the Protectorate, especially along the Northern frontier.

131. One headman from near **Po** came in with about 90 of his people and has settled in the vicinity of **Wale Wale.**

132. The French Authorities asked that these people be compelled to return to their country of origin. The number of these people was so great that we had no force capable of compelling them to return; moreover the Law Officers have ruled that the only people Government can forcibly return are those who have committed a crime which justifies the putting into operation the laws of extradition.

133. One Mallam, **Ibrahima** from **Navrongo,** moved South with a following of about 60 people and has settled in the **Salaga** District at **Jatta.**

134. The Political Officers in the Northern Province are endeavouring to persuade families from the more congested areas to move South into **Gonja** country where there is good land available and a fair supply of water all the year round.

135. A large number of natives from French Territory go South each year in search of work in order to get money to pay their taxes, and return as soon as they get sufficient for that purpose.

Labour.

136. No labour was recruited in the Southern Province either for the Mines or Railways. Twenty-five labourers left the **Yendi** District to work on the Sisal Plantation at **Accra**.

137. About 500 labourers were recruited in the Northern Province for work on the Mines.

138. The men are well looked after at the Mines but the underground work is distasteful to a large majority of them. All districts report heavy casualties amongst their men who go down to work on the Mines and this has undoubtedly interferred with recruiting.

139. A recruiting Officer from the Chamber of Mines spent about nine months in the Northern Province, but met with very indifferent success. The men dislike travelling down in the rains, when they are compelled to cross swollen rivers and miles of swamp waist-deep.

140. A good deal of local labour is employed on roads and buildings. 5,000 pieces of timber were brought in to **Tamale** alone during the year.

Veterinary.

141. The Veterinary Department has done excellent work during the year. The staff is popular with the natives and now that they have seen such successful results with cattle treated by the Veterinary Department, the natives realize its soundness, and, where not many months ago a man would drive his cattle away to avoid inspection, they now gladly bring them in.

142. On account of Rinderpest the Quarantine Station at **Paga** has been permanently closed.

143. A considerable number of cattle died from Rinderpest, but on the other hand a large percentage were cured.

Water Supply.

144. At all the outstations the water supply is obtained from wells. The supply however, is not plentiful in some places and in the dry season care has to be used in its distribution. It is not safe to drink any of the water without its being boiled and filtered.

Meteorological Observations.

145. The rainfall for the year was :—

Tamale	..	36.03	which fell on	74	days.
Salaga	..	51.07	,, ,,	85	,,
Wa ..	..	50.71	,, ,,	84	,,
Zuarungu		40.76	,, ,,	55	,,
Yendi	..	58.49	,, ,,	62	,,
Krachi	..	47.76	,, ,,	123	,,

146. At **Salaga** and **Krachi** there was some rain during every month throughout the year, whereas at **Zuarungu** it rained only during six months.

147. The heat during the months of January, February and March was excessive throughout the whole Protectorate. At **Tamale** it averaged 98.31 degrees in the shade during that period.

Messengers.

148. These have now become an established institution throughout the Protectorate and have proved most useful both to the Political Officer and to the Chiefs whom they represent.

149. In the Northern Province in addition to carrying messages they travel with the mail carriers, and also superintend the building and repairing of Rest Houses in their own particular village.

Boy Scouts.

150. At **Tamale** there is a full troop of 32 boys, *i.e.*, four patrols of eight boys each. All have Uniform, and they have all passed the Tenderfoot test. Eight boys have passed in signalling, both Morse and semaphore. Four boys have passed the cooking test.

151. There are also 24 Wolf Cubs at **Tamale** and nine Brownie Girl Guides.

152. At **Wa** and **Gambaga** there are two established troops where it is reported the boys show much keenness.

Civilization.

153. The following remarks from the District Commissioner, **Lawra,** are quoted by the Acting Commissioner, Northern Province, which, he adds, aptly apply to the whole Province :—

> " Civilization advances apace, if the standard of progress can be judged by the number of natives who now wear clothes and carry walking sticks or spears, in preference to the old order of perhaps nothing or at the best a sheep or goat skin hung over the back, the bow in hand and the quiver under the arm. The people of the bow and arrow used to meet the Commissioner on his arrival perhaps two miles from the rest house, and would take great trouble to hide themselves behind tufts of grass or any other object which afforded cover and on the arrival of the Commissioner abreast of them would leap out with twanging bows and blood-curdling yells, in apparent ecstasies of joy. Now they are a much more sedate crowd, 75 per cent. at least being clothed, many of them in European clothes, all wearing some kind of headgear, who meet the Commissioner a few hundred yards from the rest house.
>
> " The people themselves as yet appear to have changed little ; but undoubtedly a change is taking place, the result presumably of the example of the many boys who go down to the South as labourers for the Mines and Railways during the last few years.
>
> " These boys return with a wider outlook and new ideas ; they have discovered that they can live for twelve months without frequently consulting the family fetish ; all these facts are imparted in the evening to their less civilized brothers. Many of the boys return with what to them are small fortunes which not a few of them spend more or less recklessly to the bewilderment of their less opulent brothers; and this will probably cause the volume of migration South every year for work to rise yearly by ever-increasing numbers.
>
> " There is a little doubt that during the coming years rapid changes will be noticed among these peoples. The above remarks apply in the greater degree to the Lobis and Lobi Dagati, in lesser degree to the Dagati, and least to the Issala who has already advanced to that point to which the Lobi is now approaching."

LOUIS CASTELLAIN,
Acting Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories.

TAMALE,
30TH MAY, 1924.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1199	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1922–1923
1200	Ashanti	,,
1201	Gambia	1923
1202	Bahamas	1923–1924
1203	Hongkong	1922
1204	Nyasaland	1923
1205	Cayman Islands	1922
1206	Cyprus	1923
1207	Gold Coast	1922–1923
1208	Trinidad and Tobago	1923
1209	Zanzibar Protectorate	,,
1210	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1923–1924
1211	Swaziland	1923
1212	Basutoland	1923–1924
1213	Turks and Caicos Islands	1923
1214	Fiji	,,
1215	British Honduras	,,
1216	New Hebrides	,,
1217	Gibraltar	,,
1218	Jamaica	,,
1219	Sierra Leone	,,
1220	Uganda	,,
1221	Grenada	,,
1222	British Guiana	,,
1223	St. Vincent	,,
1224	St. Helena	,,
1225	Barbados	1923–1924
1226	Somaliland	1923
1227	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	,,
1228	Hongkong	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1284.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES OF THE GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1924-25.

(For Report for 1922–23, see No. 1194 (Price 1s. 3d.) and For Report for 1923–24, see No. 1229 (Price 9d.))

Printed in the Gold Coast.

LONDON:

PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 28, Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
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1926.

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CONTENTS.

	Page
Year 1924–25.	
I. Financial	5
II. Trade, Agriculture and Industries	5–8
III. Legislation	8
IV. Education	9–10
V. Government Institutions	10
VI. Judicial Statistics	10–12
VII. Vital Statistics	12–13
VIII. Posts and Telegraphs	14
IX. Religion	14–15
X. General Observations	15–24

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR 1924-25.

I.—FINANCIAL.

1. The Revenue for the year was £8,222 12s 5d, and the Expenditure was £85,300 7s. 5d.

2. A considerable amount—£2,390—of Nickle coinage was received from KUMASI during the year. It is very popular up here, especially in the North, and particularly the tenths of pennies. The African Government Officials prefer it as it helps to bring down the cost of living.

3. The changing of English money for French has not flourished this year as it did in the previous year.

In NORTHERN MAMPRUSI District the 5 Franc piece is exchanged for two shillings, and the 5 Franc note has risen from 1/3 to 1/6.

In the LAWRA-TUMU District it has varied from 3/- to 3/6, and the Franc Note from 1/9 to 2/6.

In the Wa District the 5 Franc piece is exchanged for 2/6, and the Note for 1/6 to 2/-.

4. Cowries would appear to be getting scarcer ; in the LAWRA-TUMU District only 100 are obtainable for 3d. In NORTHERN MAMPRUSI District 200, and in the WA District 240.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

TRADE.

5. Trade has been good during the year under review, and shows an increase, except in cattle, sheep and goats, over that of last year.

6. Under the Quarantine Regulations the road to the French country whence these animals come had to be closed on several occasions on account of cattle plague which was very severe there.

7. The records in the Northern Province show an increase in the number of loads of kola by over 7,000 compared with last year, but the Commissioner of the Southern Province reports a decrease of 8,000 odd loads. He attributes the deficiency to the Quarantine restriction, as the men driving down the cattle generally return North with kola.

8. Both Dawa-dawa and Shea butter show an increase, as also does Salt.

9. The sale of English cotton goods is also on the increase, and the demand for it is increasing in the Northern Province.

10. A new feature this year was the large number of crates of live fowls taken South, the total being 8,328.

11. The motor traffic across the YEJI Ferry shows a remarkable increase; 1,562 lorries being ferried across as against 500 last year, and 222 the previous year.

AGRICULTURE.

12. The harvest throughout the Protectorate is reported as good.

13. In the Northern Province, practically the whole of the crops grown are grain. Yams are cultivated in the SOUTHERN MAMPRUSI and WA Districts, and the cultivation has spread to the LAWRA-TUMU District. There are none in NORTHERN MAMPRUSI and KUSASI. The area used for the cultivation of ground-nuts increases each year. The cultivation of rice is also on the increase.

14. In the Southern Province the staple foods are yams, guinea corn and maize. Millet and ground-nuts are also grown but not to the same extent as in the Northern Province. The cultivation of rice is also on the increase.

15. There are many other foodstuffs grown including okro, cassava, cow peas, pigeon peas, and beans.

16. Tobacco is extensively grown all over the Protectorate. This year experiments were made at TAMALE in the Southern Province, and WA in the Northern Province. The Commissioner of the Southern Province reports that some varieties of Bulgarian tobacco were tried and that the plants thrived, a good crop being taken.

The subsequent curing operations, however, were not a success owing chiefly to the fact that the Harmattan season coincided with the time the leaves were ready for curing. The same difficulty was experienced at WA.

Experiments will be continued next year by planting at different times to see if it can be grown at such a time as to ripen when the Harmattan is not at its strongest.

17. The Government Vegetable Gardens have, on the whole, done well, except at NAVRONGO and ZUARUNGU, where the soil appears to be worked out.

18. Under the Superintendent of Agriculture and Forestry whose Headquarters are at TAMALE, there are Agricultural Stations at TAMALE, YENDI and KRATCHI in the Southern Province, and at GAMBAGA, WA and HAN in the Northern Province. Those at the outstations are in charge of learners supervised by the District Commissioners.

19. Teak, Mahogany, Mango and Nim Seeds are planted each year to fill vacancies caused by young trees dying or those cut for poles. The trees planted out near the Rest Houses have, in most cases, done well.

20. In the WA and LAWRA-TUMU Districts the small herds of Government cattle have done well, and were inspected by the Principal Veterinary Officer in January, who complimented the Political Officers on the good condition of the animals.

21. In the LAWRA District the herds of selected cattle sent in by the chiefs are doing well, and the chiefs and people are beginning to see the advantage of not letting the bulls run with the cows.

22. The herd of pigs at LAWRA is doing well, but a new boar is required to prevent inbreeding.

23. English fowls have been distributed to chiefs all over the Protectorate and are, on the whole, doing well.

INDUSTRIES.

24. The industries in the Protectorate are Weaving, Dyeing, Pot-making, Mat and Basket-making, Leather and Iron work, and String-making.

25. Weaving is done in nearly every village, except those along the frontier in NORTHERN MAMPRUSI and KUSASI.

26. Dye pits are to be found in a few villages, chiefly those on the trade routes.

27. Pot making and Iron work are general all over the Protectorate.

28. Mat and Basket making is also done practically over the whole country. The patterns and shapes of the baskets vary in different parts of the country.

29. At NAVRONGO the White Fathers have instructed some of their converts in the making of straw hats and rope mats, the latter are used extensively in the European houses.

30. Leather work is done almost entirely by Hausas and Moshis who are resident in the country.

31. The String making in the ZUARUNGU area of Northern Mamprusi is flourishing, and a considerable amount is bought by the Government for use in the various departments chiefly the Printing Department.

III.—LEGISLATION.

32. The following were enacted during the year :—

ORDINANCES.

No. 5 of 1924, further amending Schedule with respect to The Survey Ordinance, 1902.

No. 6. of 1924, repealing Schedule with respect to The Fugitive Offenders (Togoland) Ordinance.

No. 7 of 1924, amending The Arms and Ammunition Ordinance, 1921.

No. 1 of 1925, further amending Schedule with respect to The Public Officers Guarantee Fund Ordinance.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

No. 3 of 1924, with respect to Ferry Tolls at Bamboi Government Ferry.

No. 11 of 1924, under The Supreme Court Ordinance with respect to Civil Appeals, Causes and Matters referred from the Northern Territories, and Criminal Causes.

IV.—EDUCATION.

33. There are Government Schools at TAMALE and SALAGA in the Southern Province, and at GAMBAGA, LAWRA and WA in the Northern Province, also a Junior Trade School at YENDI.

The school of the White Fathers Mission at NAVRONGO was reopened in October.

34. The number of pupils and Teachers at the various Schools is :—

TAMALE	... 112 Pupils and 4 African Teachers.
SALAGA	... 60 Pupils and 2 African Teachers.
GAMBAGA	... 70 Pupils and 3 African Teachers.
LAWRA	... 38 Pupils and 2 African Teachers.
WA	... 63 Pupils and 3 African Teachers.
YENDI	... 90 Pupils and a European Headmaster with 3 Instructors.

35. At all the schools, with the exception of that at TAMALE, the pupils are mostly local natives.

At YENDI they are all boys from the various Northern Territory tribes.

36. At TAMALE only 40 are Dagombas, 20 belong to other Northern Territory tribes, whilst 52 the children of clerks and other African Government Officials are Coast boys.

37. The Acting Director of Education visited TAMALE and YENDI in June.

38. There are excellent boarding compounds at WA, LAWRA and GAMBAGA, where children are under the immediate supervision of the teachers and are well fed.

39. The Junior Trade School at YENDI continues to progress satisfactorily, and the boys show great keenness in their work.

In July of each year a fresh batch of boys is drafted from the other schools.

40. There are Mohammedan Schools at all the large villages in the Protectorate.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

41. In addition to the Schools just mentioned, there are hospitals for natives at TAMALE, WA and ZUARUNGU; these being the only stations where there are Medical Officers.

42. There is also a Central Prison at TAMALE to which all prisoners sentenced to six months and over are sent, and where death sentences are carried out.

43. There are lock-ups at each Outstation.

44. There is a Post Office at TAMALE from which all mail matter for the Northern Territories is distributed, and there are Postal Agencies at all Out-stations.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

45. There is very little serious crime in the Protectorate. The Native Administration has given much assistance towards the prevention of crime.

46. There were 400 Criminal Cases during the year, compared with 234 during last year, of which five and seven were homicide respectively.

47. In the Northern Province, especially in NORTHERN MAMPRUSI and KUSASI, stock theft is the most prevalent offence.

48. There is a certain amount of petty theft which occurs mostly along the trade routes.

49. Very few Civil Cases are heard, and the most of these are claims in connection with children, seduction, and, very occasionally, debt.

50. Comparative table of Crimes for the last four years :

	1921.	1922–23.	1923–24.	1924–25.
The number of Offences reported to the Police ..	498	744	909	1,196
The number of Persons apprehended by the Police or summoned before the Magistrate	498	744	909	1,196
The number of summary convictions :—				
1 For Offences against the Person	84	65	73	139
2. For Slave Dealing ..	—	—	—	—
3. For Praedial Larceny	—	—	17	2
4. For Offences against Property other than Praedial Larceny ..	145	116	140	159
5. For Offences against Health and Revenue Acts	25	385	330	362
6. For Offences under the Regulation of Employment Act	26	4	13	7
7. For Other Offences ..	128	91	204	306
The number of convictions in the Superior Courts :—				
1. For Offences against the Person	6	8	11	37
2. For Slave Dealing ..	—	—	—	—
3. For Praedial Larceny	—	—	—	—
4. For Offences against Property other than Praedial Larceny ..	5	9	3	8
5. For Other Offences ..	3	0	1	1
The number of Persons Acquitted :—				
1. In the Inferior Courts ..	70	54	110	132
2. In the Superior Courts	6	12	7	16

51. During the year 62 cases were tried in the Chief Commissioner's Court. These consisted of 7 tried by the Chief Commissioner himself, 1 in the Northern Province by Order of the Chief Commissioner, and 54 by the Circuit Judge; the latter included 12 tried at YENDI.

52. Five Death Sentences were passed by the Circuit Judge, all of which were commuted by His Excellency the Governor to Penal Servitude for Life, except in one case of a juvenile offender, who was ordered to be detained during His Majesty's pleasure.

53. One Lunatic Criminal charged with two offences of murder at YENDI in the British Sphere of Togoland, was removed to the Lunatic Asylum at ACCRA in April by Order of His Excellency the Acting Governor, whilst one Life Sentence prisoner was transferred to ACCRA in December, and a Long Sentence prisoner was transferred to SEKONDI Prison in March.

54. Two cases of Smuggling were tried at KAJEBU in the Northern Section of the Eastern Frontier Preventive Service.

55. The Circuit Judge visited NAVRONGO in the Northern Province in February and held Assizes there for the first time.

56. The increase in the number of cases reported to the Police is, in a large measure, due to the chiefs who always report at once any law breakers.

57. The largest increase is under "Other Offences", and is accounted for by the good work done by the cattle patrols in arresting persons trying to evade the Quarantine Regulations under Chapter 99.

58. The increase under "Health and Revenue Acts" is due to the various outbreaks of small-pox and the number of persons who tried to conceal cases or evade quarantine.

59. The increase in "Offences against the Person" occurred in KUSASI District, Northern Province, where the total for the year was 54 as against 19 during the previous year. None of these were serious, the majority of them being "brawling in the market place".

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

EUROPEANS.

60. The general health of the Europeans has not been good.

Out of a total of 35 European Officials no less than 12 proceeded on leave on medical certificate.

61. There were three cases of Blackwater fever; all of these recovered.

62. Eight European ladies, wives of Government Officials were resident in the Protectorate during the year; their health was fairly satisfactory.

63. There were no deaths.

AFRICAN OFFICIALS.

64. The health of the African Officials was on the whole, only fair. None were invalided.

65. There was one death from heart failure.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES CONSTABULARY.

66. The health of the Force has been good. There were 5 deaths during the year.

GOLD COAST REGIMENT—WEST AFRICAN FRONTIER FORCE.

67. The health of the Rank and File of the two platoons stationed at TAMALE was fair.

Only one death occurred.

PRISON.

68. The health of the Prisoners was good. There were only two deaths. There were no executions.

69. A small outbreak of chicken-pox occurred, of which there were 40 cases. All cases were isolated.

SCHOOLS.

70. The health of the School children has been good.

GENERAL.

71. During the year the following African patients were attended :—

TAMALE	...	229	In-patients and	3,817	Out-patients
WA	...	25	,, ,,	1,174	,,
ZUARUNGU	...	18	,, ,,	568	,,

VIII.—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

72. The Head Post and Telegraph office in the Protectorate is at TAMALE. From here all postal matter is distributed.

73. There are Postal Agencies at all outstations where a small supply of stamps is kept, and at YEJI, SALAGA, GAMBAGA, NAVRONGO and WA Postal Orders are sold.

74. There are Telegraph offices at TAMALE, GAMBAGA, WA, BOLE, SALAGA and YEJI.

75. All postal matter, except for SALAGA and YEJI, is brought from KUMASI to TAMALE by motor car, and from thence it is sent out by carriers.

76. At TAMALE, the sale of Stamps, Postal Order Poundage and Money Order Commissions amounted to £927 10s. 2½d. shewing an increase of £117 7s. 9d. over that of last year.

14,246 Telegrams and Cables were despatched during the year as against 9,918 last year.

934 bags of Mail and 22 packets were received, and 589 bags and 3 packets were despatched during the year. This is a slight increase over last year.

77. The telegraph line suffered from only 18 interruptions as compared with 31 during last year.

IX.—RELIGION.

78. The Natives of the Protectorate are Pagans. Very few have embraced Mohammedanism, and of these still fewer have done so fully.

79. There are a certain number of Mohammedans to be found in the larger villages, but these are for the most part strangers who have come to settle here.

80. The Mohammedans and Pagans live peaceably together.

81. There are roughly about 1,000 Christians including 600 converts belonging to the White Fathers' Mission at NAVRONGO.

82. This Mission was established in 1907 with three Fathers, and in 1923 the Senior Father became a "Visitor" with residence at NAVRONGO, with a view to extending the Mission's activities elsewhere in Northern Mamprusi District, which is most thickly populated. In October three more Fathers and a lay brother arrived. Permission was granted to open Mission Stations at BOLGATANGA and NANGODI in the ZUARUNGU area, but owing to the near approach of the rainy season there was only time to erect buildings for one Mission, and this was done at BOLGATANGA, where two Fathers and a lay brother now are.

83. Of the staff of seven, five of the Fathers are French Canadians, one is French, and the Lay Brother is an Alsatian.

84. They report good progress. Their work of conversion is slower than that of other Missions from the fact that they have personally to convert every recruit, although the native converts attract others. One of their original converts hopes shortly to take Orders.

85. A large Mission House of sun-dried bricks, on the arch system, has been built on the site of the old Mission House and is nearing completion.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

86. Major A. H. C. WALKER-LEIGH who was promoted Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories vice Mr. A. J. PHILBRICK, C.B.E., who retired on pension, administered the Protectorate from the 1st June to the end of the year. Mr. L. CASTELLAIN—Provincial Commissioner—acted as Chief Commissioner from 1st April to 31st May.

87. The Northern Province was administered by Mr. A. J. CUTFIELD—Deputy Provincial Commissioner—from 1st. April to 6th June, and from then to the end of the year by Mr. L. CASTELLAIN.

88. The Southern Province was administered by Mr. H. C. BRANCH—Commissioner of the Southern Province—from 1st. April to 24th May, when Mr. L. CASTELLAIN took over until June 6th. Mr. CUTFIELD then took over till 20th November, when Mr. BRANCH again assumed charge until the end of the year.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

89. The best relations exist between the chiefs and the Administration.

90. There were no serious disturbances in the Protectorate during the year.

The chiefs have given great assistance to the Administration in helping to suppress crime and reporting cases that occurred in their areas.

91. In Eastern Dagomba District, a disturbance took place at SAMBUL in January, amongst the Konkombas. It was similar to the one reported last year, but of a much milder nature. The opposing parties were lined up ready to fight when the District Commissioner, who had been warned, arrived on the scene in his motor car and the natives dispersed at once.

92. Shortly afterwards, the Detachment of Constabulary from YENDI arrived and remained in the vicinity to keep order. They were joined a few days later by a detachment from TAMALE under the Commandant, and a demonstration was made through the affected area.

93. After this the District Commissioner instructed the chiefs and headmen to call upon their youngmen to surrender their bows and arrows, and after some reluctance 4,000 arrows were brought in and destroyed.

94. The Konkombas are a primitive people, but these occasional disturbances are gradually getting less common, and there is no doubt that in a few years time they will cease altogether.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES CONSTABULARY.

95. The authorized strength of the Force is 470, and it was up to strength at the end of the year.

96. On the 27th August, the Commandant, Lieutenant Colonel H. W. M. BAMFORD, O.B.E., M.C., was promoted to be Inspector-General of the Gold Coast Police, and was succeeded by Captain J. S. MASSIE, Adjutant and Second-in-Command.

97. The Headquarters of the Force are at TAMALE, where the Officers and 225 Non-Commissioned Officers and Constables are stationed; the remaining Non-Commissioned Officers and Constables are distributed amongst the ten outstations in the Protectorate under the District Commissioners.

The discipline is good.

98. In addition to the above there are 31 Cattle Guards. These are ex-Non-Commissioned Officers and Constables of exemplary character, who are detailed for duty under the Veterinary Department. They are armed and equipped in the same manner as the serving members of the Force. These men have done exceptionally good work during the year.

99. The Commandant reports that recruiting for the Force has been most satisfactory, and that only the best type of men is enlisted. A very small percentage of men who are not natives of the Protectorate is accepted.

100. There is a Mounted Detachment of 66 which is included in the above number.

101. A detachment of two officers and 100 non-commissioned officers and constables marched to KUMASI (240 miles) for duty during the visit there of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

ROADS.

102. A large amount of work has been carried out during the year both by the Public Works Department and the Political Officers.

103. On Road No. 1 (YEJI to TAMALE) banks have been constructed at the Danga River at 26 miles South of TAMALE and near TUNGA.

The work of raising and widening the existing MAKONGO Bank has made good progress.

104. Unless abnormal rains fall, the road from SALAGA to TAMALE can now be considered as an all-weather road for light vehicles, as banks have been completed at all places where communication was formerly broken by floods.

105. There are still portions on the road from YEJI to SALAGA where communication is liable to be broken. Work on these parts is making steady progress, but owing to the distance over which gravel has to be carried the work is necessarily expensive and slow.

106. Much work has been done on Roads Nos. 3 (TAMALE to YENDI) and 4 (TAMALE to WALEWALE) causing a very noticeable improvement in each case.

107. The above roads are in charge of the Public Works Department.

108. From WALEWALE to White Volta River the road was put in order by the District Commissioner, Southern Mamprusi, with the assistance of the Public Works Department.

109. The remainder of No. 4 Road and that portion of No. 5 Road from the Red Volta River to the Sissili River and also the Road from CHUCHILLIGA to KANJAGA was done under the supervision of the District Commissioner, Northern Mamprusi. These roads were metalled with laterite and beaten for a width of 12 feet. They proved very successful.

110. No. 5 Road from Red Volta River to BAWKU was re-made by the District Commissioner, KUSASI, and motor vehicles passed along it for the first time this year.

111. No. 5 Road from the Sissili River to LAWRA was done under the supervision of the District Commissioner, LAWRA-TUMU, as also was that part of No. 6 Road from LAWRA to the WA District boundary.

112. That portion of No. 5 Road which passes through WA District was superintended by the District Commissioner.

113. The remainder of this Road from the WA Boundary to BOLE was reconstructed by the District Commissioner, Western Gonja, who, in addition, got another 76 miles —from BOLE to BAMBOI on the Black Volta River—made motorable to permit of His Excellency the Governor being able to motor right round the Northern Territories during his spring tour.

114. There are now 935 miles of dry weather motor roads, other than those under the Public Works Department, in the Protectorate, made up as follows :—

Pwalagu to Bolgatanga	...	16 miles.
Bawku to Lawra	...	202 ,,
Lawra to Bole	...	151 ,,
Salaga to Kratchi	...	70 ,,
Kratchi to Yendi	...	129 ,,
Other Roads in Lawra - Tumu District	...	118 ,,
Other Roads in Northern Mamprusi District	...	63 ,,
Other Roads in Eastern Dagomba District	...	118 ,,
Other Roads in Western Dagomba District	...	68 ,,

115. Over two hundred motor vehicles passed along Roads Nos. 4, 5, and 6 in the Northern Province, as compared with about twenty in the previous year.

REST HOUSES.

116. These have all been kept in good repair. Those along the main roads are not used quite so much as formerly owing to increased motor traffic.

FERRIES.

117. There are four Ferries under Government control. They are all on the Black Volta River, and are at BAMBOI, MORNU, YEJI and KRATCHI.

118. BAMBOI was taken over by the Government in June, and the tolls amounted to £761 16s. 9d. for the nine months it was working.

119. The tolls at MORNU Ferry amounted to £1,781 8s. 3d., being an increase over last year's takings.

120. The tolls at YEJI Ferry amounted to £2,356 2s. 2d., which is about £40 more than last year.

121. The tolls at KRATCHI Ferry amounted to £355 11s. 3d., which is about £50 less than last year.

122. This Ferry is shortly to be let to the Omanhene of KRATCHI.

123. All other ferries in the Protectorate are under the chiefs, and they have maintained a satisfactory canoe service whilst the rivers were unfordable.

Only at KRATCHI and YEJI is the River unfordable all the year round.

TRANSPORT.

124. Between KUMASI and TAMALE the transport of all Government Officials and loads is by motor vehicles. This is done by contract.

125. From TAMALE to other parts of the Protectorate motor transport is used during the dry season. At other times head porterage is still used.

PUBLIC WORKS.

126. The building programme under "Public Works, Extraordinary" has proceeded steadily; progress has been occasionally held up by shortage of timber. A large amount of timber has been brought up from EJURA, but even with this added source of supply, the available amount of timber has often been inadequate, while the heavy freight charges have caused an appreciable increase in the cost of work in TAMALE.

127. Skilled labour of a satisfactory kind has been difficult to obtain.

128. Several new European bungalows were completed at TAMALE during the year.

129. Improvements have been made at SALAGA on existing buildings, and a new Garage and also a Carpenters' Shop built.

130. The District Commissioner's bungalow at KRATCHI is nearing completion.

131. At NAVRONGO, a new Prison and Guard Room was built, and a Well deepened and lined with stone and cement.

132. At ZUARUNGU, the Medical Officer's bungalow was completed.

133. At GAMBAGA, new Quarters for the School Teachers are in course of erection, as also is the new Rest House.

134. At BAWKU, a new Court House has been built.

135. At WA, new Stables for the officers' horses were built. New School Buildings consisting of Quarters for three Teachers, twenty round houses for boys, school house, three kitchens and a washing place were also erected.

136. All existing buildings at each Station have been kept in repair.

IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION.

137. A few natives from French Territory came over and settled in the LAWRA and Northern Mamprusi Districts.

LABOUR.

138. No labour was recruited for the Mines or Railways, but about 50 men were sent down from the Southern Province for work on the Sisal Plantation at ACCRA.

139. A large amount of local labour is employed on roads and buildings, especially in the vicinity of TAMALE.

140. A total of 33,111 men proceeded South in search of work ; of these 28,677 were from French Territory. These men come down for the purpose of earning money to pay their taxes.

VETERINARY.

141. A cattle census of the North-Eastern Veterinary Section was made during the year, and the figures show an increase of 9,000 head of cattle for this area which, when valued, shows an increase of wealth of £54,000. In the Southern Veterinary Section there is a decrease of about 1,000 head of cattle, owing to the greater susceptibility of the cattle of this area to Cattle Plague.

142. Practically for the whole year, the North-Eastern Veterinary Section has suffered from epizootics of Cattle Plague, but the mortality rate has not been high—the figures returned show a mortality rate of three per cent.

In the Southern Veterinary Section there have been several epizootics both in Dagomba country and in the Mandated Territory— the death rate has been at twelve per cent.

143. The number of animals imported into the Northern Territories and passing through the Quarantine Stations was as follows :—

Cattle	... 29,396
Sheep and Goats	... 40,361
Horses	... 211
Donkeys	... 5,042

144. The Quarantine Stations have been kept up in good repair, and a number of pens has been added. A commencement was made on the rebuilding of PAGA Quarantine Station as the French Authorities have submitted a request for its reopening.

145. LIVE STOCK FARMS.—There are now in the Northern Territories 21 half-bred cattle progeny of the English bred short-horn and Hereford Bull with native cattle, 30 half-bred pigs, progeny of the Middle White Breed of Pigs with the African Pig, and 10 pure-bred Middle White Pigs. A beginning has been made in the improvement of the horse-breeding industry; two specially selected good Stallions were enrolled as premium Stallions and kept at stud, one in the North and the other in the South of the Protectorate.

The type of native cattle in the Protectorate is improving yearly owing to a vigorous policy of castration of weed bulls. Over 500 scrub weed bulls were cut this year.

146. BULLOCK AND DONKEY TRANSPORT SERVICE.—Bullock Transport Service is used at TAMALE, LAWRA and YENDI. All the conservancy work is done at TAMALE by this form of transport. Donkey Transport is employed at TAMALE and YENDI in carrying water, and at GAMBAGA in carrying stones for road building.

147. VETERINARY SCHOOL.—There are three vacancies in the establishment of pupils in the School. In the final year's class there are 3 pupils, in the second year one pupil, and in the first year two pupils.

148. The people are at last realizing the good work done by the Veterinary Department; whereas formerly they drove away or concealed their cattle on the approach of the Veterinary Officer they now willingly bring them forward for inspection.

149. The cattle Guards have done exceedingly good work in the North, and have been the means of bringing to book a number of persons who attempted to avoid the Quarantine Regulations.

MEDICAL AND SANITARY.

150. There were several outbreaks of small-pox in various parts of the Protectorate, the worst being at MALWE in the Western Gonja District, in the villages round YEJI in the Eastern Gonja District ; and also at WA.

151. In Western Gonja and WA Districts, 83 cases were recorded and 11 deaths. In Eastern Gonja 266 cases were reported and 44 deaths. At SEKOTI in Northern Mamprusi District there were 62 cases and 4 deaths.

152. There are Incinerators at all Stations. All rubbish that cannot be burnt is buried.

153. Proper latrines have been built at TAMALE, and more will be completed during the year, when the pit system will be done away with.

154. All Meat sold in the markets at TAMALE and the outstations is inspected either by the Medical Officers or the Political Officers.

155. The Water Supply in the Protectorate is drawn from wells, and all drinking water is boiled and filtered.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

156. The rainfall for the year was :—

TAMALE	... 32.66	inches.
SALAGA	... 59.25	,,
WA	... 44.92	,,
ZUARUNGU	... 40.76	,,
YENDI	...	
KRATCHI	... 60.41	,,

157. The Harmattan was exceptionally severe this year, and lasted for a longer time than usual.

158. In March, rain gauges were received and distributed to all stations which were without them.

INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION.

159. A Commission composed of the Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories with the District Commissioner, Northern Mamprusi, representing the Gold Coast, and the Administrator of WAGADUGU with the Commandant at Pô, representing Haute Volta, met in December to locate the beacons of the 1904 Commission, several of which were missing. They were also a long distance apart and not always visible one from the other; it was therefore decided to erect beacons in between. A Surveying Officer accompanied each party.

160. The Commission met on the 21st. December, and lasted till March 22nd., when the Protocol was signed at Pô. Owing to delays it was only possible to do that part of the Frontier between the Red Volta and the Sissili Rivers, which is the Northern Boundary of Northern Mamprusi.

161. It is proposed to complete the remainder of the Boundary at some future date.

162. The relations existing between ourselves and the French are most cordial, and several visits have been exchanged.

After signing the Protocol, the Chief Commissioner and the District Commissioner, Northern Mamprusi, visited WAGADUGU as the guests of the Governor of Haute Volta.

LOUIS CASTELLAIN,

Acting Chief Commissioner
of the Northern Territories.

TAMALE,

6th June, 1925.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1328.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES

OF THE

GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1925-26.

(For Report for 1923–24, see No. 1229 (Price 9d.), and for Report for 1924–25, see No. 1281 (Price 1s.)).

Printed in the Gold Coast.

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:
Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120, George Street, Edinburgh;
York Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;
15, Donegall Square West, Belfast;
or through any Bookseller.

1927.

Price 1s. 0d. Net.

INDEX—ANNUAL REPORT, 1925-26.

Head.	*Description of Head.*	*Page*
I.	FINANCE	5
II.	TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES	6
III.	LEGISLATION	8
IV.	EDUCATION	8
V.	GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS	9
VI.	JUDICIAL STATISTICS	10
VII.	VITAL STATISTICS	11
VIII.	POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS	12
IX.	RELIGION	13
X.	GENERAL OBSERVATIONS	14
XI.	POLITICAL	15–16
XII.	NATIVE AFFAIRS	17–18
XIII.	NORTHERN TERRITORIES CONSTABULARY	18–19
XIV.	ROADS	19–21
XV.	FERRIES	21–22
XVI.	TRANSPORT	22
XVII.	LABOUR	23–24
XVIII.	PUBLIC WORKS	24
XIX.	WATER SUPPLY	24–25
XX.	VETERINARY	25–26
XXI.	SURVEYS	26
XXII.	CLIMATE	26
XXIII.	EUROPEANS	26
XXIV.	GOLD COAST REGIMENT	27

SCHEDULES.

A.	JUDICIAL STATISTICS	28
B.	REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE	29
C.	RAINFALL	30

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR 1925—26.

I.—FINANCE.

1. The Revenue for the Protectorate was £9,201 3s. 11d., and the Expenditure came to £100,792 12s. 9d., as against Revenue of £8,222 12s. 5d., in 1924-25 with an Expenditure of £85,300 7s. 5d. The Revenue is gradually increasing owing to the rapid development of the country; ferry dues, motor car licences and beer licences are on the upward curve.

The ferry tolls are one of the greatest sources of Revenue, supplying nearly half.

The increased Expenditure is due to a large building programme, road development, and the necessary increase of staff for these works.

The European and African Hospitals accounted for £11,000 odd.

2. The conditions prevailing in the two Provinces are very dissimilar, and while the cowrie shell is still being used in the North. it is gradually being displayed by the nickel coinage, and will eventually cease to exist as money. In the Southern parts cowries have not been used for sometime.

3. The price in the North for cowries has ranged from 400 to 1,000 for a shilling.

4. With regard to French money the 5-franc note is valued from 9d. to 1/3d., while the 5-franc piece still fetches about 2/3d, which is far more than its worth, but this piece has always been popular, and in pre-war days fetched as much as 7/6d., though its real value was well known.

5. There was a danger at one time of the natives being victimised by the new French alloy money, which at first sight closely resembles the British alloy, in 2-franc, 1-franc and 50 centime pieces, but the Government supplied all Political Officers with specimens of the French coinage and the native is now quite familiar with them and their value, as compared with the British alloy.

6. It has been reported that while French natives are very anxious to pay in British markets with French money, they try to make British natives pay with British money in French markets.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

TRADE.

7. There is no doubt that nearly every class of trade is on the increase and that this is caused by the opening of the various motor roads, which make it possible for goods and foodstuffs to be exported to the markets of the South, where the demand is steadily on the increase, in such quick time that the traders are now beginning to realise the benefit of a quick turn over, of which they are taking full advantage.

CATTLE. (*a*)

8. The numbers of cattle passing over the ferries on their way to the South was 41,407 as against 23,626 last year, but this was a very bad year, and the small number was due to the closing of the cattle roads on account of cattle plague. The year before that showed 35,933 head.

SHEEP AND GOATS.

9. The numbers of Sheep and Goats showed an increase as against last year, of 7,897, the number crossing South being 53,799.

DONKEYS.

10. The Donkeys show an increase of 4,921, numbering 34,944.

11. The Kola figures are satisfactory showing an increase coming into the Protectorate of 11,780 loads, the total amounting to 83,273 loads. Shea butter has fallen in a small measure, but Dawa Dawa has increased.

Enormous numbers of fowls are now exported, many by lorry, and 179,080 fowls left the Protectorate going South during the year, besides thousands of yams. The trade in English and native cloth shows a slight decrease as compared with last year's figures, and this is probably due to the fact that merchants find a more ready sale for foodstuffs.

12. Motor traffic has more than doubled; on one road, opened for the first time during the year, 96 lorries passed North and 114 South. The numbers of motor vehicles, counting cars, lorries and trailers, crossing the ferry at Yeji North and South was 4,690, showing an increase of 1,652 on last year. Salt is normal.

AGRICULTURE. (*b*)

13. The crops were bad in the Southern Province owing to the rains being late, but there was no want. In the Northern Area, except for the millet crop, which was poor for the same

reason, the harvest was reported generally to be good. The people are most certainly alive to the fact that yams are a paying proposition for export to Kumasi, and they are enlarging their farms accordingly. Around Tamale this is particularly noticeable.

TEAK.

14. The Teak plantations at various stations continue to do well, and the timber is most useful for building purposes. There is a great demand in the Mandated Area for them, for canoe poles. The timber is very heavy when it has to be transported, but gradually small nurseries are being started all over the country, and these in time will do for the roofing of the Government Rest Houses and native villages.

15. The area under tobacco in the Zuarungu Division of Northern Mamprusi, is reported to be largely increased.

16. Cocoa is only grown in the Mandated Area of the Krachi District, and is reported to be on the increase, about one thousand loads were exported to the Colony, and about 300 loads went to the French Mandated Area.

17. A Cotton Scheme is being inaugurated for next year, and it is hoped it will be successful. The natives for the most part are most enthusiastic, and ten tons of cotton seed have been issued for the experiment.

MARKETS. (*c*)

18. The food supplies in the various markets are reported to be adequate, though, more especially in Tamale and Salaga, prices have gone up owing to the demand for fowls and foodstuffs, and the resulting sales of other commodities.

19. In Tamale the market has increased enormously in size, and is now far too small to accommodate the people who attend on " big market day ", which is held every sixth day. The ordinary market day now exceeds in numbers a " big market day " of a few years ago.

20. The butchers were supplied with proper saws, cleavers, and knives, and the meat looks more attractive than formerly, and steps are being taken by the Veterinary Department to ensure the proper cutting up of carcases.

INDUSTRIES. (*a*)

21. There are not a great many industries at the present time, but leather work, pot making, iron work, weaving, mat making and dyeing are some of them. The manufacture of string and rope is also carried on, and there are a few people who make brass figures for sale. Hats of grass are also made in fairly large numbers for local use, their shapes are many and varied.

III.—LEGISLATION.

22. The following Ordinances came into force during the year :—

No. 2 of 1925.—The Northern Territories Administration Further Amendment Ordinance, 1925.

No. 3 of 1925.—The Northern Territories Administration Second Further Amendment Ordinance, 1925.

No. 4 of 1925.—The Northern Territories Administration Third Further Amendment Ordinance, 1925.

No. 5 of 1925.—The Importation of Live-Stock Ordinance, 1925.

No. 6 of 1925.—The Northern Territories Administration Fourth Further Amendment Ordinance, 1925.

No. 7 of 1925.—The Northern Territories Administration Fifth Further Amendment Ordinance, 1925.

No. 1 of 1926.—The Northern Territories Administration Amendment Ordinance, 1926.

No. 2 of 1926.—The Importation of Live-Stock Amendment Ordinance, 1926.

23. RULES AND REGULATIONS.

No. 6 of 1925.—Amendment under the Northern Territories Ordinance, 1902 with respect to Prisons, Northern Territories.

No. 7 of 1925.—Further amendment under Northern Territories Administration Ordinance, 1902 with respect to Prisons, Northern Territories.

IV.—EDUCATION.

24. There are Government Schools at Wa, Lawra, Gambaga, Tamale, Salaga, and a Trade School at Yendi, in the Northern Section of the Mandated Area of Togoland.

The White Fathers have now the whole of Northern Mamprusi under them for Education, and have School Buildings at Navrongo and Bolgatanga, for which they have received a grant from the Government.

25. Education is now in a state of flux, and the new regime begins next year when the European Superintendent of Education with a European and African staff, will take over the Education of the Protectorate. The School (Trade) at Yendi and the Tamale Primary School will be removed to a ridge outside Tamale, where the Veterinary School is also going. There the new schools are to be built, some of the staff being already in occupation.

26. Education in the Northern Territories up to the present time cannot be called an unqualified success, but under the new regime it is hoped that a great improvement will take place.

27. The Yendi Trade School, now in the fourth year of its existence, will, next July, turn out on the world about 30 boys, who have done four years at some trade, such as wood-working, iron or masonry work, and agriculture. Arrangements have been made to employ all these boys directly they leave school, so that they may not forget their trades or, finding no work to do, return to their ordinary life as farmers. This is the only school at present which has a European at its head.

28. There have been no inspections during the year by members of the Educational Department, but the Political Officers do their best to carry on, and some take an enormous interest in their schools.

29. In the three schools in the Northern Province, *viz* :— Wa, Lawra and Gambaga, the boarding school system prevails, and has proved to be very successful. The boys are well and adequately fed and housed, and lead a proper school life, without any village distractions, except during the holidays. This will later on obtain in the Southern Province schools, but at present they are all day-boys with the exception of those at Yendi Trade School, where the boarding system is used.

30. The number of pupils in the undermentioned schools is too great for the available teachers, and also for the accommodation in the buildings, but this is now being rectified.

SOUTHERN PROVINCE.

Tamale	133 pupils and 6 teachers.
Salaga	64 pupils and 3 teachers.
Yendi	114 pupils and 6 teachers.

NORTHERN PROVINCE.

Gambaga	79 pupils and 4 teachers.
Wa	76 pupils and 4 teachers.
Lawra	42 pupils and 2 teachers.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

PRISONS.

31. There is only one Prison in the Protectorate, where long sentence prisoners serve their terms, and that is the Tamale Central Prison ; but all outstations possess a small prison or lock-up, where prisoners can be kept, who are sentenced to any term under six, months. All people receiving a sentence of six months and over serve their time in the Tamale Central Prison.

32. In Tamale Prison, boot making, laundry work, rope making and tailoring are taught, and it is hoped in the future that the activities of this prison will be greatly increased.

33. Extramural labour at all stations consists of conservancy, carrying water and general sanitary work.

34. There were two executions in Tamale during the year under review.

35. The number of prisoners at Tamale at the beginning of the year was 72 and at the end 56. The Expenditure on the Prison came to £1,818 0s. 10d.

HOSPITALS.

36. At Headquarters a European Hospital was built, but is not yet opened. This will supply a long felt want.

37. A new Native Hospital has also been constructed with male and female wards. This is a great improvement on the original Native Hospital.

38. At Salaga there is also a good Native Hospital, but owing to the fact that no Medical Officer was available, it was for sometime used as a school. It is now opened again as a hospital.

39. At all stations there are bush type hospitals, where natives who need medical attention, are looked after, but there is a dearth, at present, of Medical Officers.

40. With this dearth of Medical Officers there can be little or no travelling to outlying villages by them, where they would probably find a great deal to interest them.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

41. Crime is not at all prevalent and the number of Criminal Cases which came before District Commissioners totalled 717. In the Northern Province the most prevalent crime is sheep stealing, while in the Southern there is no crime which can be said to be particularly noticeable. Crimes against Health Acts, etc., are not counted in the above numbers.

42. Considering that there are no Civil Police in the country and that most of the apprehension of Criminals is done by the Chiefs and people, the number can be said to be small.

43. The total number of offences reported during the year was, including Health Acts and other offences, 1,061; this as against 1,196 in 1924-25. Of the above offences 131 were offences against the person. Prædial Larceny 9.

Offences against Revenue and Health Acts totalled 385 and other offences 308.

Offences against property other than Prædial Larceny 223. Homicide 5.

79 persons were acquitted in the Courts during the year. 12 cases were tried by the Circuit Judge in the Chief Commissioner's Court, including one held at Yendi in Mandated Togoland.

3 Death sentences were passed of which one was commuted to a less punishment.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

44. None are available, no Register of Births and Deaths ever having been kept.

45. Various outbreaks of small pox occurred in the Southern Province, the most serious of these being at Dogonkade in July, where 112 cases were diagnosed with 26 deaths. Another outbreak took place at Mpaha, in which 8 deaths occurred. A third outbreak came in early February, but owing to the rapid isolation of infected people, the disease was checked quickly.

46. There were seven cases of anthrax reported near Salaga, the patients all belonged to one family and three died. The infection is said to have been caused by the skin of a cow killed without inspection, by the villagers. By the time the outbreak had been reported, no trace of the infected herd could be found, but no further cases were reported.

47. Guinea-worm was very bad in the Southern Province, and until natives can be prevented from infecting their drinking water, it is possible that it will continue to be troublesome; while it is possible for natives, such as Constabulary to be fairly safe while in their stations, by boiling the drinking water, it is almost impossible for them to do so when out in the bush.

48. A great deal of attention has been paid to yaws this year, with excellent results.

49. The health of the Europeans was, during the year, better than during the preceding two years, only one death occurring, of a Political Officer, which took place in the United Kingdom. There were two invalidings.

50. Among the African Officials the number of cases on the sick list was less than in 1924-25. One death occurred and one invaliding.

51. There were 337 inpatients treated in the native hospital during the year, and of these 15 died, being 1 African Official and 1 Constable of the Northern Territories Constabulary and 13 Civilians. 5,124 out-patients were treated during the year, and the Medical Authorities report that the natives now thoroughly appreciate the value of medical attention and come in freely for attendance for such diseases as yaws, guinea-worm etc.

VIII.—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

52. These services have been well maintained during the year. Mails have arrived punctually, and the few interruptions to the telegraph line have been quickly remedied. The mails, on leaving the ship, are carried by train to Kumasi, thence by lorry to Tamale in two days. From Tamale all mails go out by head load to the various stations, in most cases the carriers meeting half way, and taking over the bags.

53. There are Postal Agencies at all outstations, where small supplies of stamps are in use, and at certain stations postal orders are issued. There has been an increasing demand for the latter which should be an indication of increasing prosperity.

54. There are telegraph offices at Wa, Bole, Gambaga, where the telegraph business is attended to by the Political Clerks, who receive a small remuneration for this service. At Tamale, Salaga, Yeji, regular telegraph clerks are employed.

55. At Wa the sale of stamps and postal orders amounted to £384 14s. 11d.

56. The volume of postal business is reported to be on the increase in all parts of the country.

57. The Revenue of the Tamale Post Office shows a slight decrease of £17 7s. 4½d., having earned a Revenue of £910 2s. 10d., as against £927 10s. 2½d., last year, but an increase of business at other Postal Agencies has more than levelled matters.

58. Postal Orders issued to a value of £3,323 18s. 2d., with a poundage value of £62 4s. 5d.

59. Money Orders to a value of £2,257 16s. 0d., with a commission value £17 8s. 4d.

60. 61 Cable Messages were forwarded, 54 received and 20 transmitted, while the number of telegraph and cable messages reached 16,764 during the year, of which the Official telegrams numbered 10,221 the public paying for 5,408. The number in 1924-25 was 14,246.

61. The number of interruptions on the telegraph lines was twenty-two as against eighteen in 1924-25.

MAILS.

62. 822 bags of mails and 97 packets were received. 551 bags of mails and 111 packets were forwarded. This shows a small decrease in mail bags received, normal as to mail bags forwarded, and an increase of 183 postal packets.

IX.—RELIGION.

63. The majority of natives in the Northern Territories are pagans, with a sprinkling of Mohammedans, who as a rule, are Hausa traders scattered over the country, some living in Zongos, and others, who, as in the case of Wa and Salaga, having been for generations living in those towns, from long absence from their country, have practically changed their nationality.

A great many people profess Mohammedanism, but profess it only, and do not by any means act up to its tenets.

64. In the Southern Province there are no Missions, with the exception of a very elementary one at Krachi, which is under the aegis of a Roman Catholic Catechist.

65. In the Northern Province the White Fathers have a Mission which, formerly under the Bishop of Wagadugu in La Haute Volta, has now separated from them and is quite a distinct unit. The Father Superior has not got the title of Bishop, but his staff has been increased to 8, and he is now designated Apostolic Prefect, and under this Mission all the education of the District of Northern Mamprusi has been placed.

66. There are roughly 600 converts under the Mission, and they have been in the country since 1907. This small number is accounted for by the fact that all recruits have to be personally converted, after which they have to do four years probation, before being admitted as members of the Church.

67. The Mission is now established at Bolgatanga as well as at Navrongo, and will shortly extend further out, in Northern Mamprusi only.

68. The staff consists of 8 Fathers and 1 lay brother, of these six are Canadians, one is French, one Dutch and the lay brother is an Alsatian.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

ADMINISTRATION.

69. Major H. Walker-Leigh administered the Protectorate from April 1st., until June 7th, when he was relieved by Captain L. Castellain, who continued to act until November 5th, when Major Walker-Leigh took over until the end of the year.

70. The Southern Province was administered by Mr. H. C. Branch from the beginning of the year to the end of October, when Mr. E. O. Rake took over until Mr. A. J. Cutfield came at the beginning of December. Mr. Rake again acted in January, while Mr. Cutfield was in hospital at Kumasi.

71. The Northern Province was in charge of Captain L. Castellain from the beginning of the year until the 22nd of May when he was relieved by Mr. A. J. Cutfield, who handed over to Lieutenant Colonel P. F. Whittall, D.S.O., on the 30th of November. This Officer continued in the administration of the Province until the end of the year.

72. The District Commissioner of Krachi, though in the Mandated Area of Togoland is, by virtue of his office, Travelling Commissioner in an area on the Western side of the River Volta, in Ashanti. This stretch of country is termed " all those parts on the Ashanti side owing allegiance to the Chief of Krachi " and this land was considered as being roughly a stretch of land lying on the right bank of the Volta, and reaching some thirty miles inland to the West of it.

73. During the year under review the District Commissioner, Mr. Cardinall, was able to travel this stretch of country to an extent never before attempted, and a closer delimitation can now be made.

74. This Krachi land reaches its farthest from the Volta at a village called Kwami Dio, on Road A No. 18, 31½ miles to the westward of Krachi; to the South it touches the Obossum River, and extends about 15 miles up that River, where a large stream Konsubi enters it on its left bank.

75. The boundary thence is a line from that confluence to Kwami Dio, about 315°; and from Kwami Dio to the confluence of the Dakar and Volta Rivers.

76. The Protectorate has been thoroughly travelled by all grades of Political Officers. The District Commissioners being frequently on trek through their Districts. All stations have been inspected by the Provincial Commissioners more or less frequently, and the Chief Commissioner has been to every station and through all Districts of the country in some cases three or four times during the year.

77. For the first time in the history of the Northern Territories, a road was opened practically ringing them, and it was by this road that His Excellency The Governor and his staff, and Her Highness Princess Marie Louise and stafi, accompanied by various officials, made a tour of the country.

78. The party entered the Territories at Prang situated on the River Prue, which separates Ashanti from the Protectorate, they then proceeded North *via* Yeji, Salaga, Tamale, Walewale to Zuarungu. From Zuarungu, Navrongo was reached, and from there the fleet of cars went up to Wagadugu, the Capital of La Haute Volta, remaining one clear day and returning to Navrongo, thence to Tumu-Lawra, Wa, and Bole, finally crossing into Ashanti at Bamboi on the Black Volta.

This visit was certainly a factor in opening the eyes of the wilder natives, as the District Commissioner, Lawra writes " the only motor cars the natives had seen amounted to three, and the number of cars and lorries which visited the Lawra and Wa Districts during this tour was an eye-opener to the people, and is still a topic of conversation."

79. During this journey of many hundreds of miles, some part of which was over newly made mud roads, there certainly were a number of break-downs, and this was only to be expected, as the rains had begun and were somewhat persistent during the tour, which took place in May, which, as it happened that year, was with September the record month for rainfall; a fortnight earlier or later and no trouble would have been experienced.

80. The Chiefs were most enthusiastic in their welcome everywhere, and both Chiefs and people enjoyed the visit thoroughly.

XI.—POLITICAL.

81. Relations with the French have been most cordial and frequent visits have, on both sides, taken place.

82. The Officers of the two nations are now beginnig to know each other far better than heretofore.

83. The relations between Chiefs and the Government may be said to be everywhere excellent; they are always glad to see their Commissioners when visited, and they loyally co-operate and give all the help in their power to supply the necessary labour to carry out Government Schemes of development and progress.

84. On the occasion of the visit of His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales to Kumasi in April, 1925, the following Chiefs were taken down to pay their respects by the Chief Commissioner and two District Commissioners:—The Na of Yendi, the Chiefs of Kombi and Savelugu from the Southern Province, and from the North the Chiefs of Wa, Girapa, Nangodi and the Na of Mamprusi.

85. At first, some of the bigger Chiefs did not like the idea of crossing the Volta, but when they heard that another Paramount Chief was going, their scruples vanished, and another superstition was buried.

86. The sights seen in Kumasi must have made a great impression on those who had never seen a large town, or anything approaching it before.

87. The Commandant of the Northern Territories Constabulary, with one Officer and a hundred rank and file, marched down 238 miles to assist the Gold Coast Regiment in the various necessary duties. Many of these men had likewise never seen Kumasi.

88. Mr. J. E. W. Flood of the Colonial Office made a round trip of the Northern Territories during the year, rejoining his party at Kumasi in early April.

89. The country generally is progressing rapidly in every way. People are asking for roads to be made, and lorries are to be seen everywhere, loaded with trade and passengers.

90. The Western Gonja District may be said to be the most apathetic, but this is easily accounted for by the fact that they were nearly harried out of existence by Samory, a state of affairs from which they have never recovered; the population is sparse, and they have only just had a trunk road through their country. This road is now bringing trade, and will surely bring population, which has been found to be the case on the opening of other motor roads.

91. The village of Tamale is steadily increasing in size; a new area was opened for building this year, and houses are springing up at a great pace. It is also noticeable that many small stores are being opened, and that traders, who formerly did not bother about Tamale, are beginning to open branches here.

92. Another thing, the type of house is changing in structure, being for the most part oblong now instead of round, as formerly, with plenty of windows, which were never used in the old days.

XII.—NATIVE AFFAIRS.

93. In the Southern Province seven Chiefs died during the year, the number dying in the Northern has not been reported.

94. There were small boundary disputes between Chiefs, as to territorial and fishing rights, which were settled in a satisfactory manner by the Political Officers concerned.

95. In Eastern Dagomba (Mandated Togoland) there was a small riot at Gudgoni, which resulted in the arrest and punishment of eight men.

96. There was a raid by French Konkombas on the village of Lawalugu near Kuntza last February, in which a few men were wounded. The District Commissioner visited the place and warned the people to behave; no further trouble is anticipated, but any small dispute such as the possession of a fish or guinea fowl, will often lead to bloodshed among these primitive people.

97. Two murders took place in the division, one man was apprehended and eventually executed, and the other escaped.

98. In the Northern Province everything has been quiet and no riots have taken place.

99. The Chiefs are reported to be anxious to help Government to the full extent of their power, but they do not show any great improvement in the ruling of their people, with one or two exceptions.

100. There is a certain amount of bickering reported among the lesser Chiefs, but these small matters are easily dealt with as they arise.

101. A new Fetish was found to be running in the Tong Hills, where the forbidden Fetish is situated, and quite close to it. On enquiry being instituted, it was found to be a benevolent Fetish called Tongnab, so permission was given for this Fetish to be practised.

102. Since the advent of motor cars, Political Officers find that they can see a great deal more of their Chiefs and people than formerly, and Chiefs are frequently taken round in the Commissioner's car for various reasons. When visits have to be made to places where no motor roads exist, it is usual to send ponies to the nearest point on the motor road, motor to that point, and continue on horseback with carriers.

103. Grass roofed houses are gradually taking the place of the flat roofed fortlike edifices, which were always used in certain Northern Districts. This is a sign of progress, and also that the fear of attack is passing away from the younger generation.

104. In the last tour of the writer, when the farthest places in the north west were visited, he was surprised at the number of people meeting him, who were dressed in European clothes, a bad habit possibly, but it showed that the young men had either taken to travelling more, or, that the stores are spreading to the North. He was also impressed with the extraordinary cleanliness of all Rest Houses and with the excellence of the roads, which are under the Political in that part of the country, and the orderliness of the people, who, though there in thousands, were perfectly quiet without the presence of a single constable or soldier.

XIII.—NORTHERN TERRITORIES CONSTABULARY.

105 This Force consists of one Commandant, one Adjutant who is Second in Command, and two other Officers who are called Assistant Commandants.

106. They are distributed as circumstances may require. At Tamale at present 4 officers and 204 other ranks are stationed. At all outstations there are from 21 to 28 men.

107. The total strength of the Force at present is 4 Officers, 6 Clerks, and 459 Rank and File.

108. Of the above-mentioned strength, 31 Non-Commissioned Officers and men are employed as Cattle Patrols under the Principal Veterinary Officer, and they render valuable service in supervising cattle roads, reporting disease, and apprehending cattle traders who try to enter the Protectorate by other than prescribed routes.

109. One Assistant Commandant resigned during the year, and another Officer was attached pending the decision of the Secretary of State as to his transfer from the Political Service.

110. Sixty-nine men were removed from the Force for various reasons, including 20 time expired, 9 medically unfit, 4 deaths, 11 desertions, 4 misconduct and 21 (recruits), for inefficiency.

111. There is no difficulty in getting the right stamp of recruit, and many soldiers of the Gold Coast Regiment join, after their military service.

The enlistments during the year amounted to 68.

112. Detachments are relieved as frequently as possible and go through a course of intensive training, as they are liable to get slack if at outstations too long, under Political Officers who have plenty of other work to occupy their time.

113. The mounted strength of the Force was 75 on April 1st, 1925, and is now 86.

114. There are 8 Vickers Guns, of which 4 are at Frontier Stations and 4 at Headquarters.

115. Machine Gun training has been carried out according to the Manual for Machine Gun training.

116. The Force did its Annual Course of Musketry at Tamale and at outstations where ranges were available, generally conducted by Officers of the Force.

117. The rifles are a war time production and some are not very accurate, but steps are being taken to replace these gradually.

118. The horses of the Force are in good fettle, and the casualties during the year amounted to 10, including 7 cast and 3 deaths.

119. There are bungalows for the Commandant and two other Officers, and in the next year's building programme another house will be erected.

120. The discipline of the Force is reported as good.

121. The Force has been inspected during the year by the Chief Commissioner, and all detachments by the Commandant, and other Officers.

122. The following are the tribes from which the Northern Territories Constabulary is recruited : Basari, Busanga, Dagomba, Fra Fra, Fulani, Grunshi, Kanjaga, Konkomba, Kusasi, Lobi, Mamprusi, Mawba, Moshi, Wongara, Yanga, Zabarima.

XIV.—ROADS.

123. The roads in the Protectorate are divided in two classes, those under the Public Works Department and those under the Political Officers.

124. The mileage of the former class is estimated at 358 miles, but owing to want of staff, the Political have had to take over all that part of the Public Works road north of the Nasia River, which includes the road Nasia to Gambaga about 40 miles, Nasia to Zuarungu, about 50 miles.

125. The total mileage in the Northern Territories, motorable in the dry weather, comes to 1,785 miles, of which about 250 miles are Public Works Department, the balance being supervised and made by the Political Department.

126. Practically every part of the country can be reached by motor car, and certainly all stations, during the dry weather, but during the rainy season the Northern Province is cut off from the Southern, owing to the rivers rising and washing away the drifts, which up to date have had to be made each year, entailing much labour.

127. Money is provided in next year's estimates to try and remedy this, by building permanent drifts which will remain in position, and be practicable, directly the rivers go down. Also arrangements are to be made gradually to make pontoons on the Nabogo, Gushie, Nasia and Volta Rivers, which will enable cars to travel most of the year, but before that can happen, a great deal of heavy banking will have to be done on Road N.T. No. 3, Tamale to Walewale.

128. The roads are gradually becoming consolidated by continual gravelling, but as in many localities there is no core to the road but mud, and in these localities gravel has to be hauled long distances, the labour of making a road dependable in the rainy season is stupendous, with the material at our disposal, and it takes a very long time.

In the early rains it is quite possible for lorries to be bogged, after only a few hours of heavy rain.

129. The Great North Road N.T. 1 from Prang to Tamale was kept open during the whole of last rainy season, to light lorries, with the exception of four days, when a bridge near Tamale was carried away and had to be replaced. This was a record for this road, and it is hoped that during the coming rains, the road will never be closed.

130. Heavy lorry traffic is forbidden during September and October owing to the great damage they do to the road.

131. In the Southern Province an entirely new road was opened running from Tamale to Karaga, the town of a very important Chief. The mileage is 49.

132. Another shorter road was opened from Tamale to Kumbungu 16 miles. This road is now continually used by lorries, especially on Tamale and Kumbungu market days.

133. In May the causeways in the North are usually covered, but on the Dakar it was possible to cross last year up to July 10th, and traffic was then stopped until January 18th.

134. Much road making has been done in Eastern Dagomba (Mandated Area), and a great deal of country opened up in consequence.

135. No new roads are to be made at the present, with the exception of a road from Tamale to Bole, but this has not yet been properly surveyed.

136. When the Gold Coast Regiment came up for their annual training camp, a motor track of 12 miles was made for them from Banda Nkwanta to Bwe to save head carriage. This was a great success.

137. On the Public Works Department road N.T. No. 1, on the Section Prang to Yeji all temporary bridges have been replaced by concrete bridges.

138. On the Yeji Tamale Section, work has been confined to raising the banks on the Makongo Swamp, and the construction of new banks on the low lying Sections of the road between Palbe and Yamalaga.

139. Only one permanent bridge has been made on the Yeji Tamale Section.

140. The Lawra-Tumu District has the greatest mileage of motorable roads, which is 370.

141. The Northern Province roads are excellent, and a good deal of new road has been opened to motor traffic during the year.

XV.—FERRIES.

142. During the year the Government Ferry at Yeji was leased to Messrs. Swanzys, Limited, who took over on January 15th.

143. They have now installed a large steel pontoon 60 feet by 20 feet.

It is current propelled, being anchored up stream, but during the dry weather as no current exists, it has to be propelled by a chain winch. One man does this work, and the passage can be made in 16 minutes.

It is a great improvement on the old pontoon, and it can carry six loaded lorries and trailers at one time. It is also safe and the embarking and disembarking of cars and lorries is not now the nightmare it used to be to the owners.

During the period Messrs. Swanzys ran the Ferry, that is from January 15th to March 31st, the revenue amounted to £1,192 1s. 6d.

144. The firm pays the Government £600 per annum, out of which Government give the Chief of Yeji £220 a year.

145. The Buipe Ferry is also run by the Government, the Chief of that village receiving £120 per Annum and the headman of Morno £20.

146. Bamboi Ferry, situated on the Black Volta between Ashanti and the Northern Territories, is also a Government concern.

All these ferries are doing well and a great help to the meagre revenue of the Protectorate.

147. The Ferry at Krachi was leased to the Chief of that town.

148. The revenue earned by all the Government Ferries amounted to £5,536 10s. 9d.

XVI.—TRANSPORT.

149. Transport is increasing in efficiency and in cheapness, as competition of private firms becomes more acute.

It is not now necessary, in Tamale, to make any contracts or worry in any way as to transport at any time, or to any part of the country, there are always plenty of lorries ready to take on any available work.

150. One private individual here owns a Peugeot car, a ford lorry and six Reo lorries. He is given most of the Government transport to do, as he only charges one way, whereas it was usual to charge for the return of empty lorries. The Government transport always do.

151. Commissioners can now visit [illegible]us places, and the tours, which usually occupied weeks, are now only a matter of days. A tour taking ten days with carriers, can now be done easily in a day. This leaves Political Officers more time to attend to their office work, besides reducing enormously the burden of head carriage, on the community.

XVII.—LABOUR.

152. It may be said that this is very bad country from a labour point of view, for various reasons *viz* :—A man may have started his farm and wishes to benefit by the harvest. He may have, according to native custom in some parts, to do so many days work on his prospective father-in-law's farm each year. He is generally a peasant proprietor and has no desire for making money, as he has all he wants without it. He cannot get the food he is accustomed to, down country, and he gets ill in consequence. He has a different type of house and he gets done by the natives in the South, at any rate for some time. If he does go and stay away for a year he may come back and find his farm gone, his women folk and cattle likewise.

153. In spite of the above remarks, many young men do go down for work, as the figures below show, but none of these are organised, and they only remain for such a time, and go down at such a season, generally the non-farming season, as suits them.

154. Numbers of men going South for work over various terries.

	1925–26.	1924–25.
Yeji	8,917	9,659
Bamboi	25,421	20,135
Buipe	3,802	2,979
Krachi	564	741
	38,704	33,514

Of these over 6,148 were British, the remainder from French Country.

IMMIGRATION.

155. There are a lot of immigrants from French Country in the Mandated Area of Kusasi, and a certain amount come over and settle in the Eastern Dagomba Area, but very few in the Protectorate proper.

INDENTURED LABOUR.

156. There is very little of this; since the Mines gave up recruiting here, a few men are supplied yearly to work on the Sisal Plantation at Accra. They are well paid and like the work, but even then volunteers are very hard to get. About 100 of this class of labour went down during the year.

LOCAL LABOUR.

157. According to Ordinance, people are called up to do their quota of road labour, which amounts to 6 days per quarter. This is done cheerfully, and the people quite realise the importance of good roads, even from a selfish point of view as, where motors can pass, carriers are not required. Those in Tamale came to about 400 per month, they now do not amount to 20, and only for the mails.

XVIII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

158. In the Northern Province where there are no Public Works Department Officials, all buildings and repairing work devolves on the Political Officers.

During the year under review a good deal of work under this head has been done, including a new house for the Commissioner of the Province, a new Prison and Guard Room at Navrongo, and a new Court and Office for the Commissioner, new Stables for the Constabulary and an Office, also a native hospital were built at Zuarungu, a new Rest House at Gambaga, a Court and Rest House, also a new bungalow at Bawku.

New Northern Territories Constabulary Lines and Stables at Lawra, and the District Commissioner's house which was burnt, was repaired.

159. The Southern Province has the benefit of the services of the Public Works Department, and among the buildings constructed during the year were, a practically new Residency, new native hospital and stores. European hospital (not completed). Provincial Commissioner's Office. Bungalow for the Superintendent of Education, Northern Territories. Bungalows for the Principal Veterinary Officer and an Assistant (not completed). Veterinary Kraals and stables, sheds, pens, and lines removed to Nahani, some 3 miles from Tamale. Incinerators and latrines in Tamale town.

160. At Salaga, Prison, Guard Room and Treasury Vault, District Commissioner's Office and Court have all been built. An old house rebuilt and renovated for the Medical Officer, and all other buildings kept in repair at outstations.

XIX.—WATER SUPPLY.

161. This is all derived from wells. Each year more wells are sunk, but these are not deep enough to be really serviceable. The water question is a difficult one, and will have to be taken up seriously in the near future, if an adequate supply is to be maintained at Headquarters for an increasing population.

162. The question of improving water supply on the various trade routes is one that is also worthy of attention later.

XX.—VETERINARY.

163. Cattle plague has been in existence nearly all the year in the Kusasi District, which is situated in the North East Veterinary Division, and in which there are two important Quarantine Stations namely Pusiga and Mogonawri.

164. The mortality has never exceeded 3%, and the North Western and Southern Divisions have been free of the disease during the year.

165. Very little field work has been done owing to shortage of staff, only one Officer being available, and he, besides fighting cattle plague, has castrated nearly a thousand weed bulls, and bull calves, which were unlikely to make good stud animals.

166. A new Quarantine Station was built and opened at Pinda, 8 miles north-west of Navrongo, in order to reopen the Wagadugu-Kintampo live-stock route.

167. A new road has been made to this Quarantine from Navrongo, and the French are making one off the main road to it, on their side.

168. Full preparation has been made for the collection of the forthcoming live-stock tax, which will begin on April 1st, additional staff have been posted at the various Quarantine Stations, and offices and stores have been built for the Veterinary Assitants in charge.

169. The Tamale live-stock farm has been removed entirely from the Tamale town area because its propinquity most certainly brought flies. It has now been rebuilt one and a half miles to the West.

170. Five half bred bulls, bred from the British bulls have been issued to Chiefs, and twenty-two pigs.

171. There are eight bullock carts working in Tamale, three of these being employed on conservancy work. This form of transport is used at Yendi, Lawra, Wa, and Salaga.

172. Donkey pack transport is employed at Tamale and Yendi for water carrying, and in the Northern Province for road work.

173. There are three vacancies at present in the Veterinary School.

174. Three students passed their final examination last December, and one Veterinary Assistant passed the examination qualifying him for promotion to the first Division, after a year's special course of study.

175. There are now three pupils in the first year, and one in the second.

176. The Principal Veterinary Officer has been on leave since November, and Captain J. L. Stewart, M.C., has been acting for him, up to the end of the year.

XXI.—SURVEYS.

177. Various Survey Parties have been operating in the country during the year.

178. The Railway Survey completed a preliminary survey on the proposed Northern Railway as far as Tamale.

179. The Geological Survey have made a searching trek up the Eastern side of the Protectorate, and some of the party have also penetrated some distance in the Westerly direction.

180. A survery of Tamale town for the future, was made during the year, and a scheme of town planning drawn up.

181. A Wireless Framework Section has been fixing points in the Northern Province.

XXII.—CLIMATE.

182. Reports about the rainfall are conflicting, while in the Northern Area, the rainfall is reported as being the heaviest for eight years by 16 inches, all agree that the rains continued nearly a month later than usual.

183. The whole country suffered from great heat during February and March, and even natives were heard to complain of its unusual severity.

XXIII.—EUROPEANS.

184. The European population is steadily growing, with the exception of the White Fathers in the North and one contractor in the South, all are Officials.

185. 152 Europeans arrived in and passed through Headquarters during the year.

XXIV.—THE GOLD COAST REGIMENT.

186. The Detachment of the Gold Coast Regiment stationed at Tamale marched through the South West part of the Protectorate to their camp of exercise on the Black Volta, they returned by march route the same way. All arrangements for food and carriers were made by the Political Officers of the Protectorate, but during the actual manœuvres, Ashanti became responsible for their food.

SCHEDULES.

A. Judicial Statistics.

B. Revenue and Expenditure.

C. Rainfall.

H. W. LEIGH,
Chief Commissioner,
of the Northern Territories

Tamale,
5th June, 1926.

SCHEDULE A.

TABULATED ANNUAL RETURN OF CRIMINAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925-26.

I.—OFFENCES.

TABLE SHEWING THE NUMBER OF OFFENCES REPORTED TO THE POLICE OR THE MAGISTRATE DURING THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH, 1926.

Province.	Total number of Offences reported.	Offences against the person.	Slave Dealing.	Praedial Larceny	Offences against the property other than Praedial Larceny.	Other Offences.	Health Acts.	Homicide.
Northern Province ..	504	78	—	3	153	225	41	4
Southern Province ..	557	53	—	6	70	83	344	1
Totals ..	1,061	131	—	9	223	308	385	5

SCHEDULE B.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
1. Revenue—1925–26	9,201	3	11
do. 1924–25	8,222	12	5
Increase	£978	11	6

	£	s.	d.
2. Expenditure—1925–26	100,792	12	9
do. 1924–25	85,300	7	5
	£15,492	5	4

3. The Revenue is largely derived from Ferry Tolls. There has been a slight increase in Revenue from this source *viz* :—

	£	s.	d.
Ferry Tolls 1925–26	5,584	10	9
do. do. 1924–25	5,560	7	5
Increase ..	£24	3	4

4. The following are some of the more interesting items of Expenditure :—

Public Works Extraordinary.

	£	s.	d.
Tamale European Hospital	6,626	5	11
Tamale Native Hospital	4,373	16	11
No. 1 part Yeji–Tamale Road	1,477	13	9
No. 3 part Tamale-Yendi Road	1,517	10	3
N.T. Building Programme	9,450	5	11

Public Works Annually Recurrent.

	£	s.	d.
Yeji-Tamale Road Maintenance	3,320	7	5
Maintenance of Roads and Bridges ..	3,813	19	7
Maintenance of existing buildings	1,703	13	10

SCHEDULE C.

RETURN OF RAINFALL, 1925–26.

April	2.12
May	3.99
June	5.94
July	2.74
August	5.71
September	13.28
October	7.57
November	2.65
December	Nil
January	Nil.
February	Nil.
March	1.75
	45.75 inches.

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